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20 October 1982

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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'EZER WEIZMAN'S WIFE VISITS CAIRO

TA041126 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Re'uma Weizman, wife of 'Ezer Weizman, arrived in Cairo yesterday for a visit and met, among others, with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Mrs Weizman is in Cairo on a "family visit." She came especially in order to be with Jihan al-Sadat this week, on the first year anniversary of the murder of her husband, President Anwar al-Sadat.

The fact that Mrs Weizman is visiting and being made welcome in the Egyptian capital at a time when peace relations between Israel and Egypt are at an all time low is causing speculation among diplomatic elements in Israel and in Egypt.

Mrs Weizman is supposed to meet with Mrs al-Sadat today and was invited to dine with former Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil.

Diplomatic circles in Israel and Cairo estimate that Mrs Weizman's visit in Egypt at such times is encouraged by the highest political circles in the Egyptian Government, including President Mubarak. It seems that Egypt is trying to signal to Israel that not all is lost in the relations between the two countries.

Commentators believe that Cairo is trying to stress that with certain people in Israel it is still ready for close friendly relations and maybe even for the renewal of the autonomy negotiations and the deepening of normalization. There is no doubt that Cairo is trying to imply that Weizman is the man almost suitable in its eyes to help renew the peace process.

The MA'ARIV correspondent has found out that it has been hinted to Mr Weizman himself that he would be a welcomed guest in Cairo. His associates say that he preferred not to go so as not to attract attention to himself and to refrain from damaging the status of government people in Jerusalem whose job it is to handle relations with Egypt.

Mrs Weizman is accompanied by her daughter Mikhal. They arrived in Cairo yesterday and were received at the airport by the wife of the Egyptian foreign minister. Mrs 'Ali has taken it upon herself to be Re'uma Weizman's host in Egypt. The visit will be 3 or 4 days long and they will return to Israel by the end of the week.

CSO: 4400/17

PERSIAN GULF AFFAIRS

QATAR AMIR RECEIVES BAHRAIN HEIR APPARENT

GF011320 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Oct 82

[Text] Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamid al Thani, the amir, received at his office in al-Dawhah Palace at 1100 today Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, who is currently visiting Qatar. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense; Khalid al-'Atiyyah, minister of public works; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information; Brig Gen Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Atiyyah, deputy commander in chief of the armed forces and 'Abdallah Khalifah al-'Atiyyah, director of the heir apparent's office. On the Bahraini side, the meeting was attended by Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs and Shaykh Khalid Ahmad al Khalifah, the director of the Bahraini heir apparent's office.

QNA has learned that the Bahraini guest has conveyed the regards and good wishes of the amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, to his brother the amir of Qatar and the Qatari people.

The Bahraini heir apparent arrived in Doha from Dubai earlier today on a 2-day fraternal visit to Qatar. Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah al Thani, the Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense, was in the forefront of welcomers of the Bahraini heir apparent when he arrived at the airport. He was also received by shaykhs and ministers, the chairman of the Consultative Council, the deputy commander in chief of the armed forces and his assistant, the assistant chief of police and the deputy chairman of the Consultative Council, in addition to a number of senior state officials.

CSO: 4400/16

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES IN 1981

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 16, 18, 19 Sep 82

[16 Sep 82 p 2]

[Text]

A. The activities of the land transport department relating to transport of goods by the union of private sector transporters and private vehicles during 1360 HS (1981) are as follows:

1. Number of available private sector means of transport:

According to a census taken in 1360, over 9,300 trucks included in 113 unions were active during the year. However, as shown by registration books, about 2,121 were operating in 1360 including 1,660 vehicles within 64 central unions only in the northern part of the country.

Similarly, according to previous statistics, 4,451 buses within 125 unions and 6,591 taxis within 54 taxi-drivers' unions were active inside the country.

2. Transport of goods during 1360:

As many as 241,620 tonnes of goods were carried from the Hairatan port to the capital and other provinces by 19,751 trucks. As

many as 454 tonnes of goods were transported from the Sher Khan port by 153 trucks.

No less than 57,388 tonnes of goods were carried from Torghundi to Herat, Kandahar and Kabul by 4,782 lorries.

From the Pule Khumri Cement Factory 47,650 tonnes of cement were carried to the capital and provinces by 3,176 vehicles.

From Karkar and Jabul Seraj 49,755 tonnes of coal were transported by 3,827 lorries.

As many as 44,974 tonnes of fertilisers were carried from Mazare Sharif to Kabul and other provinces.

From the Nangarhar province, 1,500 tonnes of fertilizers were carried to Kabul and Parwan by 112 vehicles.

Seven hundred tonnes of cotton were carried from Mazare Sharif by 816 vehicles to Kabul and Pule Khumri.

As much as 549 tonnes of wheat seeds was carried

from the Parwan province to Kabul by 88 lorries.

No less than 27,400 tonnes of goods were carried from the capital to the provinces by 2,078 lorries.

3. Wheat, sugar, dried fruits, liquorice, aided goods and other commodities were carried from Kabul and other provinces as follows:

From Baghlan and its related areas 17,710 tonnes to Kunduz and Spinjar.

From Spinboldak to Kandahar, 12,000 tonnes of fertilizer.

In all 32,300 tonnes of goods belonging to the state were transported by private transport.

INCOME

Besides, about 1.1 million tonnes of goods belonging to private traders, such as fresh fruits, dried fruits, wheat, rice, salt etc have been transported by the private sector's transport means.

4. Income for 1360:

In general, a sum of Afs 170 million has been obtained through the collection of

taxes and commissions from transport in 1360 HS.

Activities of the Road Transport Enterprise in 1360:

In the transport section, on the basis of the plan of motor vehicle organisations within the framework of the Transport Ministry and as ordered by that organisation, 300 new Tatra trucks, manufactured in Czechoslovakia, at a total price of Afs 479,230,000 were added to the capital of the enterprise.

Thus the fixed capital of this enterprise increased from Afs 103,000,000 to Afs 500 millions.

It should be mentioned that, despite a series of difficulties such as the unavailability of spare parts and

lubrications, the non-operation vehicles to allow repairs, unavailability of winter accessories such as tarpaulins, and lack of technical cadres for repair of the vehicles, the department of road transportations, renamed as freight transport enterprise no. 1, could manage in the course of 1360 to carry over 52,000 tonnes of goods by its transport means within the country.

Activities of the freight transport enterprise no. 2 of Kamaz vehicles in 1360:

The Kamaz freight transport enterprise, established in 1360 in the state sector under the Transport Ministry, began its activities on Saratan 16, 1360 (July 5, 1981) with only 36 Kamaz

vehicles and a working capital of Afs 25 million.

The enterprise has in its possession some 183 vehicles. Its activities are briefly as follows:

1. From the start of its activity, i.e. from July 1981 up to the Hoot 20, 1360 (March 11, 1982), it has carried a total amount of 10,493.4 tonnes of goods of the following description:

Cement from Pule Khumri to Kabul—1,322.3 tonnes.

Chemical fertiliser from Mazare Sharif to Kabul—1,802 tonnes.

Aided goods from the capital to the Logar and Samangan provinces—60 tonnes.

[18 Sep 82 p 2]

[Text]

Metals from the site of storage to the construction site of the enterprise—470 tonnes.

wheat from the Hairatan port to Kabul—425.5 tonnes.

1336.3 tonnes of Cement.
2086.3 tonnes of iron goods.

B. Expenditure and incomes:

The approved proper active capital is Afs 38,000,000.

The revenues of the enterprise up to the Hoot 20, 1360 HS (March 11, 1982) was Afs 9,526,761. The collection of revenues up to Hoot 20 was Afs 6,808,999.

The amount due on the Finance Ministry with regard to the active capital was Afs 13,000,000.

The amount due from customers by way of rents: Afs 2,717,762.

Total dues: Afs 15,717,762.

Total available assets of the department: Afs 31,808,999.

Expenditures of the enterprise: Afs 23,072,683.

Brief report on activities of Civil Aviation Authority in the year 1360.

BASIC AIM

The civil aviation authority (Afghan Air Authority) mainly and basically aims at providing facilities and services in relation to the air traffic, supervision over application of civil aviation laws and regulations with a view to accomplishing safe, regular economical activities of flights over the air spaces of civil airports in

the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

This department has been able to fulfil the following activities despite the presence of a series of difficulties in 1360:

a. In the operative section:

1. Maintaining security measures in the Kabul international airport. For this purpose, fences were erected and specific instructions were issued to other airports.

2. Preparing and signing agreements with the general command of airforce and airdefence with regard to the joint utilization of airports in Kandahar and Herat.

3. Studying and preparing of statistics for the preparation of the draft plan

of the coming 20 years for the development of the air transport of the DRA and handing it over to the related experts.

4. Studying and assessing offers pertaining to the construction works of the expansion project of the Kabul international airport presented by the Helmand Construction Unit, the Afghan Construction Unit and the department of roads and airport construction.

5. Accomplishment of works related to the project of aviation facilities and the despatch of 38 officials and technical personnel of the Afghan Air Authority, and the Bakhtar Aviation organisation to foreign countries with the assistances of the United Nations Organisation for further studies in specialised fields in relation to the above-mentioned project, provision of a station and parts for the communication centre at a cost of 221,301 dollars equivalent to Afs 11,000,000 under the above project.

6. Traffic services for the transition flights as well as to the flights operating in the international airports of Kabul and Kandahar and in the local airports in the course of the year.

7. Publication and distribution of 830 sheets of no-

tifications no. 1 and no. 2 of the aviation.

8—Issuance of 102 licenses and authorising letters to the flight crew, engineers and mechanics of the Ariana Afghan Airlines and the Bakhtar Airlines.

Afghan Air Authority:

In 1360, five persons were sent to the Soviet Union under the fellowship programmes of the World Aviation Organisation for higher studies. Also, making use of the financial aid of the organisation, two persons were sent to Bangladesh and one person to Paris for participation in scientific seminars on meteorology.

After return to Kabul, the participants of the seminars presented adequate information to the Scientific and Technical Council of Meteorology.

Similarly, through participation in the seminar in Paris, the team of meteorologists paid a short visit to Geneva, headquarters of the World Meteorological Organisation. After two days of discussion there, the WMO gave 20,000 dollars as an immediate aid to the meteorological department of Afghanistan and envisaged 60,000 dollars in its 1981 plan for the development of meteorology in the DRA,

which will be realised after the case is studied by the executive committee of that organisation.

RESEARCH

Scientific research work was done by the authoritative bodies of the departments of the Meteorological Institute and the subjects considered to be of economic importance were published. Among them, research works on climatic conditions, aerostatics of the clouds, prediction of temperature, and preliminary classification of agroclimatology were published. A number of officials of the department took active part in teaching meteorological subjects in the Kabul University.

A course on meteorology was attended by the officials of meteorology in the air force. Other departments such as the forecast, communications, observatory and computer sections of the institute have all fulfilled their duties in spite of all the difficulties.

It can be said in short that the ordinary as well as the development works of the meteorological department have been properly accomplished by the industrious officials of meteorology whether in Kabul or in the provinces.

[19 Sep 82 p 2]

[Text]

The international relations of the meteorological department, especially with the friendly Soviet Union and the world Meteorological Organisation, have developed and considerable help has been obtained by

it from the international financial sources.

A brief report on the activities of Ariana Afghan Airlines in 1360:

With the tireless efforts and by making use of modern methods since the se-

cond half of 1359, the Ariana Afghan Airlines could fulfil its duties successfully according to the plan. In some areas, it even carried out more activities than envisaged in the plan.

In the field of agreements:

In addition to the programmed flights, the Ariana Afghan Airlines, despite competition from other airline companies, could manage to conclude for the second time with the United Nations Organisation the contract of Charter flights carrying the UN peace-keeping forces from Kashmir to Beirut.

According to this contract, the Ariana Afghan Airlines earned as much as Afs 31,450,000 as an extra income after seven successful flights.

Carrying stewards from London to Paris and hotel accommodations, the AAA saved over Afs 4 million.

According to a three-year contract with the Shell and Esso oil companies in 1360, the Ariana Airlines was to benefit as much as Afs 32,450,000 more than under the contract of the preceding year.

Due to the renewal of the contract with the Lufthansa Airlines for carrying goods from Dubai to Frankfurt in 1360, a discount of 20 cents per kgs was given in the interest of the Ariana Afghan Airlines in comparison with the preceding year.

CONTRACT

The contract with the Frankfurt Intercontinental Hotel was renewed, according to which as much as Afs 240,000 more was saved for Ariana Afghan Airlines than in the preceding years. The end to chartering of the Boeing 727 aircraft of the Ariana Afghan Airlines with European companies, as it was beyond the scope of

our use, brought over Afs 40 million to the AAA as a surplus income in the 1360.

Since we had to make major repairs on that plane, the larger part of the repair charges was paid from this amount.

Due to the renewal of the contract of handling of DC 10 aircraft in Delhi with the Indian Airlines, concluded in the beginning of 1359, as much as one million and three hundred Afghanis was saved in the interest of Ariana in the new contract.

As the contract for the repair of teletypes of the Ariana Afghan Airlines with foreign firms were cancelled, they were repaired by Afghan engineers, for which the Ariana Afghan Airlines saved Afs 200,000.

In the field of training technical and professional personnel:

Since the beginning of the second half of 1359, despite the existence of extremely limited possibilities, serious and indefatigable efforts were made to train technical personnel and the process continued with full swings in 1360, resulting in the graduation of a decent number of technical and professional personnel.

Up to the end of 1360, at the expense of the Ariana Afghan Airlines, two persons were trained for captainship of DC 10 and two persons as flight engineers. Similarly four persons were trained as co-pilots of DC 10 and one flight instructor in Boeing 727. Two persons were also trained for the Boeing 727 as captains while five persons were trained as co-pilots for Boeing

727 aircrafts at the expense of Ariana Afghan Airlines.

TRAINING

Four teachers finished their theoretical learning and will soon be sent for practical flight exercises.

Besides, ten persons were trained as despatchers in two courses, and 28 persons were trained as stewards at international standards. Apart from this, a good number of the previous stewards finished higher courses for stewards in accord with the standard of aviation laws and obtained licenses from the civil aviation authorities.

Also, accountants were trained in accounting courses at the standard of civil aviation companies.

Air traffic personnel, and sales persons were trained in special courses.

The English language and handling of the passengers were also taught to the related personnel.

The training of engineering personnel of DC 10 aircrafts was carried out by teachers from the Indian Airlines in the field of engines.

Basic engineers were also trained and a number of them were sent to England and France for practical works.

Afghans will be sent soon to India to be trained for the express machines.

Since many years the secretaries in Ariana Afghan Airlines' offices are foreigners and no Afghan has been trained for this purpose. For the first time, two graduates of the Higher Institute of Business Administration were sent to

India for secretarial training, and they have now returned successfully and have begun their work.

It is planned that, in 1361, several other persons will be sent to India for higher studies in this field. One teacher for DC 10 aircraft and one flight engineer will also be trained.

In the field of passengers' flights:

In 1360, a total number of 68,613 passengers have travelled by the Ariana Afghan Airlines. The number of passengers flying from Kabul to abroad by the Ariana Afghan Airlines in 1360 shows an increase of seven per cent over 1359 while the number of passengers flying from abroad to Kabul by the AAA in 1360 has increased by 21.5 per cent over 1359.

Da Bakhtar Afghan Alo-tana:

Da Bakhtar Afghan Alot-ana (the Bakhtar Afghan

Airlines) possessed only three small aircrafts in 1358 and 1359. In 1360, two Antonov N-24 aeroplanes were added to the planes although it was not included in the plan.

Flights were made to 22 airfields, but now these planes fly to four additional airfields in Farah, Zaranj, Sardeh and Lashkargah.

Da Bakhtar Afghan Alo-tana has been able to carry all the state treasures, passengers, posts, newspapers and magazines, documents of the Central Committee, primary goods and materials as well as medicine to all the places where it flew.

STUDIES

Eighteen employees of the Bakhtar Afghan Airlines, who had gone for studies to the Soviet Union in connection with the

Antonov N-24 planes, returned to Kabul in April 1981 and began their related works.

The Bakhtar Afghan Airlines have made cartographic flights between Hairatan port and Salang, which had also been used as charter flights and brought Afs 178,429 to the airlines.

Up to the Dalv 1. 1360 (January 21, 1981), the total flight hours of Da Bakhtar Afghan Airlines reached 4,299 hours, the total weight of goods, and medicines 429 tonnes, (101 tonnes more than the goods carried in 1359), 94,000 passengers (22,000 passengers more than in 1359).

The postal material and magazines carried in that year amounted to 3,673 kgs.

The expenditures of the Bakhtar Afghan Airlines in the first nine months of 1360 was Afs 121,898,512 and its income Afs 5,693,010.

EXPANSION OF MINISTRY OF MINES, INDUSTRIES DESCRIBED

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 20, 21 Sep 82

[20 Sep 82 pp 2, 3]

[Text]

Within the framework of the Mines and Industries Ministry, 17 combined productive enterprises and companies are working. These are: the Bagrami Textiles, Afghan Textiles, Balkh Textiles, Kandahar Fruit Company, Kandahar Woollen Textiles, Puli Charkhi Woollen Textiles, Clemd Afghan Company, Sugar Factory of Baghlan, Bost Ginn and Press Factory, Spinzar Gin and Press Factory, Balkh Gin and Press, Fertilizer and Electricity Complex of Mazare Sharif, Jangalak Factories, Afghan Terkanai, Marble and Green Marble Factory, Jabal Seraj Cement Factory and the Ghorl Cement Factory.

Besides these, there is the department of gas extraction and transmission, which brings the total number of productive organisations of this Ministry to 18.

The total number of items produced by these organisations and enterprises of the ministry is 31, all of which have great value and importance from the

viewpoint of their consumption value and requirements of our society. Yet the major portion of the state revenue comes from the production and sales of natural gas, cotton textiles, ginned cotton, chemical fertilizers, cement, coal, metal works, wood industries, woollen textiles, sugar and vegetable oil which formed 97 percent of the total planned production in the year 1360 (March 21, 1981-March 20, 1982).

It is estimated that the real production of the ministry in 1360 amounted to Afs 17,350, million, which included Afs 13,435 million due to the extraction of 2,700 million cubic metres of natural gas, Afs 692 million from the production of 30.4 million metres of cotton textiles, Afs 1,203 million from the production of 19,120 tonnes of ginned cotton, Afs 741 from the manufacture of 105,600 tonnes of chemical fertiliser, Afs 229 million from the production of 95,500 tonnes of cement, Afs 102 million from 120,000 tonnes of coal,

Afs 162 million from the production of metal products, Afs 97 million from the 135 thousand square metres of wood products, Afs 40 million from woollen textiles, and Afs 260 million from 5,530 tonnes of vegetable oils.

Despite the difficulties and obstacles created by the enemies of the revolution, the ministry has been able to successfully implement its plan with regard to the major items such as natural gas, chemical fertilisers, metal products and machine tools in 1360.

PLANS

In the plan of 1360, 36 projects were anticipated in the sector of mines and industries to be financed from the development Budget of the state. From the projects belonging to the industries sector, eight projects were carryover projects, three pilot projects and two new projects. In the mines sector, there were 12 carryover projects and one new project.

The major projects of the industries sector included

the fourth turbine and the fifth boiler of the fertilizers and electricity complex of Mazare Sharif, the Herat Cement Factory, the Cotton Textiles Mills of Herat, the Cotton Textile Mills of Kandahar, construction of residential houses of the Gerishk Gin and Press Factory, the new Sugar Factory of Baghlan, development of the industrial area of Kabul, the Extension Factory of Ghorī Cement, reconstruction and expansion of the Kandahar Conserved Fruit Factory, reconstruction and expansion of the Jangalak Factories, and so on.

The major projects of the mines sector included construction of residential area for 1,000 families in the Sheberghan city, equipment of Khwaja Gogerdak establishments, construction of Lopenk (the second line of work), construction of the unit for isolation of sulphur gas in Jarqoduk, exploration of gas and oil and the drilling of extraction wells, construction of the oil refinery of Angot, Aqdarya and Qeshqari, extraction of useful solid mines, geological and mining research, equipment of the coal extraction installations of Sabzak in the Herat province, the copper enrichment combine of the Ainak copper mines, the laboratory for the complex of analysis of useful solid mines and the connection of

extraction wells of Jarqoduk.

With the aim of reasonable utilisation of investments, priority was given to the carryover projects.

The fifth boiler of the Chemical Fertilizer and Electricity Complex has started operation and utilisation from the fourth turbine of the Chemical Fertilizer and Electricity Complex was bound to begin the first part of the current year, 1361. It should also be mentioned that the project of the construction of residential areas for the Grishk Gin and Press Factory has been completed.

The total amount of funds for the completion of a total of 26 development projects under construction, which include the new and pilot projects, which has been spent in 1360 was estimated at a cost of Afs 2,253 million, out of which Afs 607.1 million was provided from the internal sources and a sum of 32.918 million dollars, equivalent of Afs 1645.9 million was provided by the credits of friendly countries.

In order that a more specific and detailed explanation of the various development projects of the ministry is provided for the readers of this report, every one of them is briefed separately here under:

a. The sector of industries:

1. The fourth turbine and the fifth boiler of the Fertilizer and Electricity Complex of Mazare Sharif:

The work on this project began in 1357 (1978). The fifth boiler was put to operation with a capacity of 75 tonnes of steam in the second half of 1360 (1981).

The fourth turbine is planned to begin activity in the first part of the year 1362 (1983).

2. The Kandahar Cotton Textile project:

This factory had started production at a capacity of 1,000 tonnes of cotton thread and forty million metres of cloths in 1355 (1976).

3. The Herat Cement Factory project:

This factory was built with a view to producing 210,000 tonnes of cement per year. The factory started production in 1356 (1977).

The total capital of this factory is 22,697,000 dollars from the credit of Czechoslovakia and Afs 991,085,000 from the state Budget.

4. The Herat Cotton Textile project: This project started in the year 1354 (1975) with a capacity of producing 500 tonnes of thread and 12.5 million metres of fabrics per year.

[21 Sep 82 p 2]

[Text]

5. The Construction of residential buildings in Gerishk:

This project was started in 1357 (1978) and was completed in 1360 (1981)

at a cost of Afs 69,250 million, met from the state Budget.

6. The New Sugar Factory of Baghlan:

The construction of this factory began in 1356 (1977) with a view to produce 27,000 tonnes of sugar annually. This project was planned with an invested capital of 46,700,000 dollars and Afs 522,481,000 from the state Budget.

7. The development of industrial parks in Kabul:

The project was started in 1353 (1979) and is planned to be complete in 1365 HS (1986).

The capital has been approved at 2,199,000 dollars (from the credit of the friendly India) and Afs 49,300,000 from state Budget.

8. The expanded Ghori Cement Factory:

The outlay for this project was approved at 55,000,000 dollars from the credit of Czechoslovakia and Afs 800,000,000 from the state Budget.

With the construction of this factory, the productivity of the factory will increase considerably.

9. The reconstruction and expansion of the Jangalak Factories:

The construction work of this project began in 1360 (1981) and is planned to be complete in 1365 (1986).

With the completion of this project, considerable improvements will occur in the productive units of this factory and the factory will be ready for the proper repair of Kamaz vehicles.

b. The sector of mines:

1. The first stage of the project of building a residential area for 1,000 families in shelter is expected to house 200 families.

2. The extraction of useful solid mines which covers the extraction and problems related to the mining of all solid mines except coal.

3. The enrichment combine of Ainak copper mines is among the very big and important projects which will be built with the technical and economic help of the Soviet Union, with a capacity of 114,000 tonnes of concentrated copper annually.

4. The coal mines project of Herat is expected to have a capacity of 300,000 tonnes of coal in a year.

The work on this project had started in 1355 (1976) with the help of friendly Czechoslovakia.

5. The work on the connecting tunnel of Karkar

Doodkash project had started in 1357 (1978) and will be complete in the first half of the current year, with the help of Czechoslovak credits.

6. The preliminary stages of the project of construction of the oil refinery have been completed. The refinery will in due course be launched with a capacity of 500,000 tons per year with the help of the Soviet Union.

7. The project of complex laboratory and analysis of useful solid materials will be complete and ready for utilisation this year with a capital of 4,871,000 dollars, to be met from the credits of the Soviet Union and Afs 142,900,000 from the state Budget.

8. Work on the project for connecting the extraction wells of Jarqudoq started in 1360 (1981) and is planned to be complete in 1362 (1983).

In the first stage, from the 10 wells envisaged in the plan, five wells will be completed at a cost of 3,101,000 dollars, met from the credit of the Soviet Union and Afs 50,400,000 from the state Budget.

KESHTMAND STRESSES DEVELOPMENT OF KABUL

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 21 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] KABUL, September 21 (Bakhtar).— A session of the Council of Ministers was held here yesterday under the chairmanship of Sultan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and Chairman of the council.

The meeting discussed a number of important issues related to different aspects of the socio-economic and cultural life of the country.

Speaking at the session, Keshtmand reviewed the participation of ministries and Government departments in implementing the general plan for the development of the Kabul city.

The party, Government and Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, personally attached extraordinary importance to the development and pr-

osperity of the Kabul city", Keshtmand added.

"In the general plan of the development of the Kabul city", Keshtmand added, "harmonising the outward appearance of the city with the tasks of its future economic growth and the solution of important social and cultural problems have been taken into account."

Dwelling on the report of the State Planning Committee regarding the designing and layout of major projects and measures for improving affairs connected to project construction, he said: "The expansion of the construction of industrial, residential and cultural projects and general services enterprises demands a new approach towards the designing of these projects and enterprises."

He said that all necessary conditions had been provided for the centralisation of planning different projects and improving coordination between the project planning and construction enterprises.

The Mayor of Kabul presented a report to the session on the active participation of the ministries, Government departments and other enterprises in the implementation of the master plan for the city.

The session also discussed a number of laws and regulations and approved them.

These included the law of application of penalties during imprisonment, supplement no. 12 to the law of income tax, regulations for the scientific personnel of the Academy of Sciences and regulations to govern establishment of health commissions for certifying disability.

CEMENT FACTORIES INCREASE OUTPUT

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 15 Sep 82 p 3

[Interview with Abdul Samad Ahmadyar, liaison officer]

[Excerpts] From the beginning of current Afghan year 1361 HS till now, as many as 175,534 bags of cement produced by the Ghorī Cement Factory has been distributed to the clients through the six state sales outlets in Kabul city.

Stating this in an interview with the Kabul New Times, Abdul Samad Ahmadyar, incharge of the liaison office of the factory, said: "In recent years, great strides has been made in production, supply and distribution of cement. Earlier, the cement produced by the Jabulseraj Factory was not in any way sufficient to meet the ever-increasing needs of the state organisations, Government projects and public needs. Therefore, in order to meet these and in an effort to supply sufficient amounts of cement to the country's new construction projects and finally to help industrial development in the country, the factory was set up."

With a higher capacity than the Jabulseraj factory, it was located in Pulikhumri area where sufficient raw materials were available. The economic feasibility studies were completed and the construction begun. The contract for the factory was later signed between the concerned authorities of the DRA and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

In accordance with the contract, the construction took place in two phases. In the first, the factory was in a position to produce 200 tons of cement in 24 hours and, in the second, the development phase of the factory raising the capacity to 400 tons of cement in three shifts in 24 hours was completed. The contract for this phase was also signed with the Czechoslovak side by the Afghan authorities.

The first phase was completed in the month of

Hamal 1341 and the second in the month of Hamal 1342. And, after a period of experimental production, the factory started its official production in the beginning of 1343

Ahmadyar added: "Taking of our past experience since the beginning of operation into account the factory employees have considerably improved the standard of their product in comparison to its initial stage. There is still scope for raising the quality and quantity of production."

In order to further raise the production and meet the ever-growing needs of development projects, it has been decided to set up another cement factory with a capacity of 1,000 tons in 24 hours. The new factory will be established close to the Ghorī unit—because of the proximity of raw materials in sufficient quantities.

Ahmadyar stressed that "there is much scope for expansion of cement production in the country because sufficient raw materials are available within the country."

CSO: 4600/12

LAND DISTRIBUTED TO 44,000 PEASANTS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 16 Sep 82 p 3

[Text] The national and democratic Saur Revolution achieved victory under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The revolution considers the accomplishment of the democratic land reforms as one of the most important conditions for the economic and social development of the society and this ideal forms the basis for the eradication of feudal and prefeudal relations and growth of productive forces in agriculture.

After the victory of the new and evolutionary phase of the revolution, the continuation of the land and water reforms attracted all-sided interest of peasants, toilers and landowners. The party and the Government have also paid serious attention to this issue and have set forth the continuation of land reforms as one of their most major tasks.

The PDPA CC Politburo and the Council of Mi-

nisters held a joint session on Jauza, 1360 (June 1982) and fixed the fundamental lines for the continuation of land reforms. And, in order to continue and put into practice effective reforms, the session also formed evaluation and coordinating commission for land reforms in the provinces of the country.

Based on these directives and resolutions, the Agriculture and Land Reforms Ministry has performed the first, second and third phases of the land reforms as follows:

Performance Of the First Operational Plan:

In order to implement the first operational plan, 33 groups were despatched to 20 provinces of the country, i.e. to Kabul, Badakhshan, Herat, Nangarhar, Balkh, Bamian, Ghazni, Takhar, Paktia, Baghlan, Helmand, Kunduz, Kunar, Badghis, Kandahar, Parwan, Lagh-

man, Fariab, Jauzjan and Wardak province, and from among these groups, 26 of them successfully accomplished the evaluation of the reform work in 16 provinces. Pre-evaluation-stage of land reforms is continuing in five provinces, that is, Laghman, Fariab, Jauzjan, Wardak and Helmand provinces.

Groups were formed from among those operational groups who were successful in the pre-evaluation-stage, to implement the first operational plan and the preparation for the second operational plan in the provinces. An experienced official who had knowledge in administration, was sent to each of the provinces to teach the concerning personnel. And, necessary office accommodation and other needed materials were also prepared in these provinces.

Following is the brief record of performances of the first operational plan

of the democratic land reforms:

Forty four thousand, nine hundred and eighty five peasants have received land ownership documents, out of which 355 persons have not been registered yet in the administration units.

The number of landowners having surplus lands registered in the list of the administration or re-identified, reached to 8,290 persons.

The total distributable land is estimated about 391,570 jeribes.

The lands distributed to the state farms, municip-

alities and other organisations is 15,260 jeribes.

The estimated ceded and restored lands and the lands in the possession of the deserving people is 224,572 jeribs.

(Translated from Haqiqat Enqlab Saur)

CSO: 4600/12

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

ETHIOPIAN TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED--Algiers--Mr Ali Dubouzar, central committee member and secretary of state for foreign trade, and Ethiopian External Trade Minister Wollie Chekol signed an agreement Saturday evening. The agreement reaffirms the main guidelines of Algerian-Ethiopian cooperation and specifies the framework for bilateral trade for 1983. That agreement, additional to the one signed in June 1981 provides a basis for reviving and strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries, first at African level and then in the framework of south-south cooperation. [APS report: "Signing of an Algerian-Ethiopian Agreement"] [Text] [PM120917 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 3 Oct 82 p 12]

CSO: 4500/7

U.S. ROLE IN LEBANON CRITICIZED

GF010630 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 30 Sep 82 pp 1, 10

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The arrival of U.S. units which belong to the multinational force in Beirut yesterday coincided with U.S. statements and military activities in the Mediterranean. This arouses worry and poses threats [of plans] to occupy Lebanon and to change it into another base for striking at the Palestinian revolution and for foiling all prospects and fundamentals of national awakening which is aimed at liberation.

The duties which the United States gave to its forces in Lebanon this time have absolutely nothing to do with the mission which the multinational forces was given, whether the first or second time, where the responsibility of these forces were supervising the departure of the Palestinian combatants and protection of the civilians. These responsibilities expand and increase and it seems that they have no limits. This is a delicate and planned tactic which depends on the gradual unveiling of goals and intentions.

After having this clarified, it will not be strange to have the U.S. troops set conditions for its presence even if this were to be at the expense of Lebanon's security, sovereignty and the area's security and stability. This does not seem an isolated conclusion if we review the developments of U.S. activities and U.S. statements in the past 2 days. They are as follows:

1. The United States announced that its forces will remain in Lebanon for any period, no matter how long it is if their presence was essential. Therefore their stay is unlimited.
2. The United States emphasized that the responsibility of its forces can be summarized by remaining in Lebanon "to help" in the evacuation of all the foreign forces from Lebanon and the imposition of Lebanese legitimacy over all of the Lebanese territories although the PLO and the other powers demanded that the multinational force be restored only to protect the Palestinians following the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

3. The weapons which arrived with the U.S. forces are heavy and they do not suit the mission announced earlier. So this augurs a strong U.S. presence in Lebanon.

4. The U.S. Defense Department reinforced the U.S. 6th fleet, in the eastern part of the Mediterranean with an aircraft carrier in addition to five ships and 1,800 Marines in preparation for a new landing [of troops] and thus to be able to reinforce its forces in Lebanon if the need arises.

5. The U.S. State Department issued a statement charging the PLO with violating the Philip Habib agreement "by having a number of its combatants infiltrate into Lebanon" and even into Beirut. [The statement] calls on the Arab countries to influence the PLO in order "to stop this grave violation."

This statement is the most grave part of the U.S. position since it is full of enmity for the PLO and the Palestinians. It also denounces the United States itself as being neither worth the responsibility it shouldered nor the confidence it was granted when the Arabs accepted it as part of the multinational force. This [conclusion] can be attributed to the fact that this statement exposes the lives of the civilians to danger and gives the Israeli occupation forces and their Phalangist allies all the pretexts to continue their savage aggression against the civilians before the blood of the thousands of the Shatila and Sabra victims has dried. Moreover, this gives the United States pretext to reinforce its presence in Lebanon, to land further [troops] or even to clash with the Palestinian revolution.

This is quite a warning to all the Arab powers which believe in the independence of this nation which rejects the U.S.-Zionist hegemony. The Arab capitals and the masses in the Arab world have to mass all their efforts in order to foil the hegemony plans before they take root or [confronting them] will cost us our economic progress, political independence in addition to more blood and lives.

CSO: 4400/16

BAHRAIN

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS--Manama--Japan was the most important trade partner of Bahrain in 1981, the value of the two-way traffic exceeding BD81 million. The United Kingdom, however, continued to be the single largest source of Bahrain's imports, a trade of over BD76 million. Japan exported goods worth over BD66 million and imported from Bahrain commodities worth over BD15 million. The United States is very close to Japan as a source of Bahrain's imports, with exports of over BD57 million. [Excerpt] [GF161115 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 16 Sep 82 p 17]

THATCHER VISIT REPORTED--Manama, 29 Sep (WAKH)--British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher stopped over at Bahrain International Airport today from India on her way back to London. She was received and seen off by Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and acting Bahraini minister of state for cabinet affairs, and William Roger Tomkys, British ambassador to Bahrain. Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi stated that during British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's stopover in Bahrain he discussed with her bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them in light of what resulted from her visit last year. He added that they also discussed Arab issues in general, the bloody tragedy in Lebanon in particular, and what massacres the civilians are facing by the Israeli forces. The Bahraini minister stated that he talked with her about the Fes summit resolutions in addition to affairs related to the GCC, the upcoming summit conference that the GCC leaders will hold in Bahrain in November, and the relation of the Economic Council with the EEC and industrial countries. At the conclusion of his statement he noted that he expressed the appreciation of Bahrain and Arab countries for Margaret Thatcher and her country's brave stance on the massacre of Palestinian refugees in Sabra and Shatila camps. [Text] [GF291344 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Sep 82]

CSO: 4400/16

TWO INTERVIEWS WITH MINISTER OF DEFENSE ABU GHAZALAH

'AL-AHRAM' Interview

PM061607 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 3 Oct 82 p 7

[Part I of interview granted by Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah to Salah Muntasir 29 August in Cairo]

[Excerpts] Question: Field Marshal, one of the results of the October war is that the United States is now the main source of arms for us as well as for Israel. I do not deny that in my own political thinking I see many reasons and arguments that make me believe in the importance of the United States being with Egypt and Israel in one trench. However, temporarily, I will play the role of devil's advocate and ask you: How can we rely on the same source of arms as Israel does?

Answer: First of all let me say that we are not unique in this approach, but, regardless of that, one could ask: Why does the United States agree to arm both Egypt and Israel? The answer is that the United States has its own higher strategy which is in harmony with this line of action, irrespective of the strong U.S.-Israeli relations. I want here to warn against believing the claim that Israel fully controls the United States. True, Israel does wield some influence in the United States, but there is no question that the United States has its own separate strategy. Any analyst can easily see that U.S. strategy in the Middle East has the following two main objectives:

1. To ensure the continued flow of oil from the region at acceptable prices.
2. To end Soviet influence in the region and ensure the friendship of as many states as possible in the region. As regards imperialism, I doubt that it is a U.S. objective. They want you to be their close friend, not the friend of the Soviets.

Question: Does this not clash with the Arab strategy, Field Marshal?

Answer: If you look at the Arab map you can divide it into two big circles: The Arab east circle, which stretches from the Arab Gulf to the Nile Valley. The oil is concentrated in that area, where there are also common interests and where the pressing dangers are the same. The most important of these

dangers are of course Israel and Iran. The second circle is the one we call the Arab Maghreb. The dangers threatening it are not as pressing. It covers the area from the Atlantic to the Nile Valley. This makes the Nile Valley--that is, Egypt--the common denominator in both circles, which explains Egypt's geographical importance and responsibilities.

If we look at the Arab east circle, which is the main oil-producing region with 60 percent of the world's oil reserves, we will see that a main part of its strategy is based on sound relations with the West, which is the customer which buys the oil. Therefore that area definitely has a vested interest in improving relations with the West which buys its oil and pays the money and provides the technology with which it builds new economic structures for the future when the oil dries up. The area can only rely on the West for the supply of technology. Add to this the fact that, because of their faith in the divine religions, the Arab states are closer to the West than they are to the East. All these factors negate conflict or clash between the Arab and American strategies.

Question: But, Field Marshal, does this interpretation or analysis not reflect complete capitulation to the United States?

Answer (with extreme enthusiasm): This could happen if the relations were one sided or if the West only took from the Arabs without giving them anything, or if the West acted as master with the Arabs as subordinates with no say. Such a situation is totally rejected. The relations we seek are relations based on equality and mutual benefit without either side exploiting the other. As an Arab all I ask of the American is to give me a chance to live and progress. As long as I do not throw myself into the lap of his enemy, the American should help me. This should not prevent me from building a friendship with the other side one way or another so long as this friendship does not affect the interests of the American.

Question: Don't you think that this calls for a high degree of Arab skill?

Answer: Certainly, particularly in view of the fact that the rules of the game between the two superpowers are still unknown to us in the Middle East.

'AL-AKHBAR' Interview

PM111615 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 6 Oct 82 p 3

[Interview with Egyptian Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah by Jalal Duwayday, presumably in Cairo--date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: President Husni Mubarak has spoken on more than one occasion about having essential forces to protect Egypt's security and existence. What is this strategy based on?

Answer: Of course it is clear that this strategy is dictated by the numerous phenomena around Egypt, the most important being the following:

1. The steady growth of armed forces around us, as in Israel and elsewhere.
2. The forcible imposition of faits accomplis by anyone who feels stronger than others.
3. Israel's attempt to appear to be the only capable power in the region.
4. The fact that Israel's strategy has not changed despite the peace process. This strategy is based on possessing a superior deterrent force used for preemptive and preventive strikes and for waging wars and battles beyond its borders.

Question: But what role is there for our armed forces in the light of Egypt's cherished goal of peace for all the Middle East?

Answer: While endeavoring to maintain the peace atmosphere, Egypt must take into consideration the dangers surrounding it. This means that the Egyptian armed forces should be strong. All these circumstances were taken into consideration when the national aims of Egyptian military policy were defined. The main ingredients can be summed up in the following:

1. Preventing aggression against Egypt and, in the event of such an aggression taking place, destroying it decisively.
2. Safeguarding Egypt's territorial integrity and protecting the Egyptian people's sacred values and chosen social and political system.

Fulfillment of these objectives depends on a specific military strategy based on the following two principles:

1. Military balance with the forces of our neighbors.
2. Having the necessary deterrent power to prevent any attempt at aggression against Egypt.

Question: How can there be stability conducive to peace in the region?

Answer: For stability and peace to prevail in the Middle East the following prerequisites must be met:

1. The Palestinian problem should be justly solved and the solution should fulfill the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.
2. There should be military balance among the various states in the region, to prevent the outbreak of more wars.

3. Lest the region be exposed to the dangers of polarization and international conflict, foreign influence, either Eastern or Western, should not be allowed. Naturally, this cannot be achieved unless the Arabs have a unified strategy and power and unless they eliminate their differences and face the dangers threatening them. I might add that this is by no means an unattainable goal.

Question: How do you view the standard and effectiveness of the armed forces now as compared with their standard during the 1973 war?

Answer: Above all I want to emphasize that our armed forces are now much stronger, more efficient and better than they were during the October war.

Question: What is our military position vis-a-vis the events of the past 4 months in Lebanon?

Answer: The events in Lebanon are regrettable, and we can draw two main conclusions from them:

1. That we should be alert to what happens around us and should be prepared to repel and forcefully deter any aggression against our territory.
2. That we should develop our armed forces to ensure their deterrent power and combat capabilities. It is perhaps very important that everyone should realize that weakness always encourages the other side to commit aggression. It is our destiny in Egypt to carry arms in one hand and cultivate the land with the other.

Question: What is the situation regarding the policy of diversifying the sources of arms? Can such a policy meet our armament requirements?

Answer: I want to make it clear that the principle of diversifying arms sources is being applied on the basis of careful planning. Arms are chosen on the basis of quality to meet essential requirements. The choice is also based on the principle of giving every branch a different direction, to avoid problems related to maintenance and spare parts. We give special attention to manufacturing spare parts and ammunition ourselves, to avoid problems encountered in the past. In addition to applying the principle of diversifying sources of arms to serve our national security, we must gradually develop our military industries in accordance with a sound plan.

Question: Does your reference to the development of our military industries mean that we have succeeded in giving a boost to the military industries as a step toward self-sufficiency in meeting the needs of our armed forces?

Answer: We have indeed entered the stage of heavy military industries. In the next 3 years we will complete the stages of producing the various types of artillery, and as a result we will be able to rely on ourselves completely in this respect. Within 1 year we will begin to manufacture armored vehicles and we will be self-sufficient within 3 to 5 years.

We have also gone a long way in the air force sector. On 5 November the first French type [Vamit] fighter training aircraft assembled in Egypt, with 15 percent of its parts also manufactured in Egypt, will appear in Egyptian skies. This is a major step forward in the aircraft industry. This aircraft is considered one of the most modern and sophisticated trainer and fighter aircraft. The agreement concluded with France provides for the assembly in Egypt of the Mirage-2000 aircraft and the manufacture of 15 percent of its parts in Egypt too. This is one of the most sophisticated fighter-bombers in the world and is a match for the F-16. However, I must admit that advanced military industry is an extremely expensive affair and requires close international cooperation.

Question: Will our military industry, now or in the future, produce any surplus for export abroad? How much success have we achieved in this field?

Answer: We are at present exporting a part of our Egyptian products of arms and ammunition. We have plans to develop our projects and increase exports by investing 1 billion pounds in them.

Question: Does the peace treaty contradict Egypt's pioneering role in the Arab world, and does it prevent Egypt from shouldering its historic responsibility of defending the Arab brothers against any foreign threats?

Answer: I do not believe at all that the peace treaty can possibly constitute an obstacle in the way of cooperation and rapprochement between Egypt and the Arab states. Many states have strong ties with one another despite the fact that some of them may be friendly to certain states which other states do not want to befriend.

Question: But what specific role can the Egyptian armed forces play to confirm Egypt's pioneer position in the Arab world?

Answer: In the military sphere Egypt is the only school in the Arab world as far as training and expertise are concerned. It has the capability to provide the Arab states with experts in all modern military spheres. Furthermore, Egypt is the industrial base for military production on which the Arab armies could relay for the supply of arms and equipment.

CSO: 4500/6

ANALYST SEEKS TO ASSESS BLAME FOR ARAB DEFEAT IN 1973, 1982

Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 1 Sep 82 p 5

[Article by Hasayn 'Abd-al-Raziq: "Who Bears the Responsibility for the Fourth Arab Defeat — the Arab Regimes and Their American Ally, or the Soviet Union?"]

[Text] With the departure of the forces of the Palestinian revolution from Beirut, the election of Bashir al-Jumayyil as president of Lebanon and the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanon, the curtain is rising on another series of Arab defeats at the hands of the Israeli enemy.

This fact is not modified by the heroic perseverance of the fighting men of the Palestinian revolution and some detachments of the Lebanese National Movement. The end result is that the Arab nation, from the Gulf to the Atlantic, has lost the sixth war with Israel.

Although the Arab regimes' collective responsibility, without exception, for this defeat, be they regimes that signed the agreement of peace and reconciliation with the Israeli enemy, regimes that led their peoples into the framework of absolute subjection to the United States of America, or regimes which contributed, through silence or the failure to follow the proper road to liberating the territory and the nation — although their collective responsibility is clear (and perhaps because of this very clarity), the Arab regimes and their media have been careful to accuse the Soviet Union of responsibility for the Arab defeat, "for the betrayal of the principles it vaunts," and for the abandonment of friends. The same people and writers who demanded, and rejoiced over, the expulsion of the Soviet Union from the region wonder today why the Soviets did not intervene, and they direct one charge after another against them.

The issue of course, from our point of view at least, is not one of attacking or defending the Soviets; rather, it goes much deeper and farther than that.

The real goal in this attack, in which numerous Arab capitals, foremost among them Cairo, are taking part, has no relationship close or remote with the Soviet Union and the positions it takes, whether they are right or wrong. (The Soviets have without a doubt committed mistakes here and there.)

Rather, the goals these forces are aiming at by their attack are something completely different.

The first is to exonerate the American ally and partner, whom numerous Arab regimes are dependent on, regimes which can find no recourse by which to protect

themselves from their own people for the responsibility for the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution - or at least to continue another party which can bear part of the responsibility, so that feelings of popular hostility will not be directed against the United States alone.

As long as America and the Soviets are partners in the crime, as they say, the choice here will be in favor of America, which is firmly standing alongside its friends.

The second is to conceal the Arab regimes' responsibility and pin the entire crime on foreign parties.

The people can be excused for succumbing to this error which the Arab regimes have skilfully set up. Where can they find out the truth, while emergency laws, exceptional laws, and the monopolization of power, the media and culture set up a wall that keeps the people from access to the facts?

The 1973 War and the Charge against the Soviets

In 1973, Egypt and Syria embarked on a successful war against the Israeli aggression against Sinai and the Golan. They ventured on this war with Soviet arms, Soviet training and Soviet political support. However, no sooner had the war ended than the United States of America, which supported Israel militarily, economically and in the international context to the point where it threatened direct intervention in the war on the Egyptian front, became a friend whose word was to be obeyed by the rulers of Egypt, and the Soviet Union faced the most extreme, most violent attack that it had been exposed to in its history, which went beyond the Soviet government and the ruling Communist Party to the peoples of the Soviet Union themselves.

For us to understand what is going on on the Arab state today, it would be beneficial for us to pause briefly before the circumstances Soviet-Egyptian relations went through from the 1973 war to September 1981. Al-Sadat's regime levelled many charges, which were crystallized in three major issues:

The Soviets' lack of enthusiasm, before, during and after the October war, for supplying Egypt with the necessary arms, in terms of quality and quantity.

The Soviets' use of the process of providing weapons for the armed forces to impose their will on Egypt, and control its policies and deplete its resources as the price for these weapons.

The Soviet Unions' refusal to respond to Egypt's request to reschedule Egypt's debts to the Soviet Union, in an attempt to put economic pressure on the Egyptian government.

There is no doubt that if these charges are correct they would be a mark of shame on the Soviet Union and our rulers would have the right to count it among its enemies. However, the facts are at variance with and belie these contentions: they are facts that the people who promote these lies know better than others do.

Let us turn a few pages of the book of the October war together to learn about an important part of the truth.

Soviet Arms in Arab Hands

Directly after the war, an American committee headed by Samuel Stratton visited Egypt and Israel. In its report, the committee said:

"The committee considers that the arms the Soviets have given the Arabs are of an extremely useful and concentrated nature. One can say that the massive amounts of arms given to the Arabs, and not their special nature, are what struck the committee. The Israelis consider that the Egyptians and Syrians obtained advanced tanks (T-62's) and planes which the Soviet Union has not even given to some Eastern European countries. The Egyptians also obtained long-range missiles enabling them to reach Tel Aviv from Egypt.

"The Israeli air force commander pointed out that the Soviets supplied the Arabs with retractable-wing aircraft (Sukhoi-20's), which are among the most modern warplanes Soviet production has devised. The Israeli commander also pointed out that the Soviets supplied TU-16 aircraft outfitted with (Kilth) missiles to the Arabs. At the outset the Israelis believed that this type of plane was given to the Arabs to terrify the American Sixth Fleet, but they ultimately discovered that their deduction was not correct. They told the committee that a missile of the (Kilth) type, whose range can reach Tel Aviv, was fired on Israel during the war."

Western reports point out that these weapons were in the hands of the Egyptian and Syrian forces before the October war. Al-Sadat confirmed this fact in a conversation he held with Borchgrave in NEWSWEEK magazine in April 1973 (after Marshal Ahmad Isma'il's visit to Moscow) in which he said "The Russians are supplying us with everything they can."

After the war, the British SUNDAY TIMES wrote that the office of intelligence and research of the American Department of State expected that a war would be launched before fall, and the American Central Intelligence (CIA) started to quote the office, which asserted again, in the summer, that war was imminent, backing their statements by the increased volume of Soviet arms shipped to Egypt and Syria.

Israeli historians, in their book meting out the blame [for the war] (al-Mihwal), state that on the evening of 13 September constant activity of transporting Soviet heavy armaments to the Syrian army started in the air and on land and sea and the Soviets, beginning January 1973, worked diligently to erect a tremendous system of missiles in the Golan Heights up to the area overlooking Damascus, which, in their force, were equal to the missiles the Soviets had set up west of the canal in July 1970 and were on a par with the system used for protecting the most important installations inside the Soviet Union.

During the war, a Soviet airlift to Egypt and Syria began. This transported to Egypt alone about 600 tons of equipment a day by air, going by Western (especially American) estimates.

In addition to the tremendous amount of American weapons that 1.1 million Arab soldiers had been armed with in Egypt and Syria, the type of arms was also exceptional.

Israeli experts point out, "As the days went by, it became apparent that the Israeli airforce, which achieved the army's lightning 6-day war victory in the first 2 hours 5 June 1967 when it destroyed most of the Egyptian air force on the ground in its bases, was not in October 1973 able to deter the Egyptian attack decisively because of the dense concentration of Egyptian missiles."

Ian Smart, the deputy director of the British Royal Institute for International Affairs, summarizes the basic role of the October war from the military standpoint by saying, "Soviet technology in the hands of Arabs ended an era in which tanks and aircraft dominated the arena of combat. The appearance of new anti-aircraft and antitank missiles (saggers) with high mobility, which were easy to operate, recorded an important shift which reminds us of the long bows which helped the British infantryman defeat armed cavalry in the 14th century. The Arab soldier, with his Soviet antitank missile and his ability to destroy a 50-ton tank, was fighting again, for the first time since 1916 when tanks began to operate in war, and infantrymen faced them alone; now, with their antitank weapons, they stood on an equal footing with them."

If we add to the issue of arms (in terms of their quantity and quality) the Soviet position between 19 and 24 October 1974, and the fact that the Soviet Union went so far in its support as to declare an alert among its military forces and to send elite forces to support Egypt, thus reaching the brink of a confrontation with the United States of America, which in turn had declared a state of nuclear alert, we will realize the extent of the Soviets' commitment to support Egypt and the Arabs. It is no secret that dozens of Soviet military men lost their lives on Arab soil during the war of attrition and the October war, including Lt Gen Teodor Bondarenko, the commander of the antiaircraft missile units in the Soviet Union.

The Lies about Arms Dealers

The second issue, or the second accusation, bearing on the objectives of Soviet arms and their use for purposes of control and economic gain - to the point where the Soviets are accused of being arms dealers and bloodsuckers of people - is in turn a charge that has been totally disproved and has no basis in fact. In a scientific study by the Swedish Institute of Peace Studies and the Center of Political and Strategic Studies in AL-AHRAM which was issued in June 1979 (at the peak of the clash between al-Sadat's government and the Soviet Union), the facts were revealed, one after the other, through a review of the worldwide arms trade.

The Soviets' objective in the arms deals was "not to tie the countries of the third world to the Soviet Union but rather to keep these countries from being linked to Western alliances against the Soviet Union, in order to break the policy of siege and co-optation imposed about the Soviets.... It is clear that the Soviets contented themselves with the positions these countries took against imperialism, and the Western presence and influence and in favor of the policy of nonalignment. Underlining the fact that there were no political conditions is the point that changing the regime and its orientations after the acquisition of Soviet arms could be done simply and easily, free from influence by the Soviets. The prominent examples are Indonesia, Ghana and Egypt."

In general, the Soviet Union provides weapons to some third world countries in order to convey them to national liberation movements, to support their struggle for liberation.

The Soviet Union, moreover, does not strive to acquire marine or air facilities as a condition for supplying arms; it contents itself by keeping these countries in the nonaligned group or reducing the intensity of their enmity toward the Soviets.

The economic factor is almost totally nonexistent in Soviet arms deals, according to the two studies. The Soviet Union's entree, or in other words its yields, from arms deals with the third world, cannot be relied upon, and sometimes turns into a burden, rather than being a source of revenues. The Swedish Peace Institute study points out that for 20 years half the Soviet arms sales to the third world were to three countries — Vietnam, Indonesia and Egypt. All the arms to Vietnam were without price and were free of charge. With regard to Indonesia, some of the arms were a grant and some were in exchange for long-term loans. Egypt acquired arms worth \$1.5 billion, of which it had paid only \$500 million by 1967, according to a statement by the prime minister on 27 January 1976.

In addition to the fact that half the Soviet arms to the third world are free of charge, the prices of Soviet arms, as compared with the prices of other (Western) arms are considered low. In addition, payment, except in rare cases which one can confine to two or three instances over 20 years, is done by loans of six to 10 years at an average interest of 0.5 to 2.5 percent. These are not economic conditions for the Soviet Union.

Loan Scheduling and Espionage

We come to the third issue, which is the Soviet Union's refusal to schedule Egypt's debts in order to put economic pressure on it.

Following the October 1973 war, the Egyptian government, pleading economic difficulties that arose from the war, demanded that payment of the Egyptian debts to the Soviet Union be delayed for a grace period of 10 years, with payment to start after that; payment of the economic debts would be completed in 10 years and the military debts in 40 years. That is, payment would end in half a century (in 2025).

The request was strange and reflects deep-rooted intent on the part of al-Sadat's government to devise a new element of conflict with the Soviet Union.

Egypt's economic debts to the Soviet Union, in exchange for loans for the construction of 192 economic projects (basically industrial, last of which was to expand the Naj' Hammadi aluminum complex project in May 1975), mostly, since 1967, arose from an attempt on the part of the Soviet Union to support Egypt's perseverance in the economic sense, and involved plants such as the iron and steel complex, the aluminum complex, the shipyards in Alexandria and the rural electrification project.

The instalments on the debts and commitments payable to the Soviet Union and the socialist countries represented only a very minor percentage of the debts Egypt

was paying annually. The size of the instalments paid to the Soviet Union (in debts and interest) was 44 million pounds in 1973 and about 70 million pounds in 1975, accounting for 6 percent of the foreign commitments that had to be paid off in 1975, which came to 1,235,000,000 pounds.

In addition, the grace period Egypt requested from the Soviet Union was in addition to existing ones. There is a grace period ranging from 5 to 10 years in all Egyptian military and economic agreements with the Soviets.

Egypt paid these debts off by exporting such nontraditional goods as leather products, furniture, cloth, alcoholic beverages and glass products. These industries for the most part are crafts centered in small factories (in the private sector) for which there are no markets in the capitalist Western countries. Of the 70 million pounds paid to the Soviet Union, 50 million pounds were in the form of nontraditional goods.

What is most controversial is the fact that the Ministry of Planning presented a report in August 1975 (when Dr Muhammad Hilmi 'Abd-al-Rahman was planning minister) stating, in these words: "From the practical standpoint, the purpose in the scheduling is to reduce our exports to these countries. To that end, it is worth pointing to the effects of the debt scheduling on the productive structure in the society, especially sectors which will inevitably be affected by the drop in exports to the Eastern bloc, as in the case with regard to the shoe and furniture industries — indeed the raw cotton sector itself."

What the report anticipated actually happened. The only loser was Egyptian domestic industry, and the public and private sector (basically the private one), while domestic capitalism benefited.

The military debts all arose after the 1967 defeat. The Soviets waived the military debts twice, first in exchange for Egyptian arms used in the Yemen war, and second for the debts for the arms lost in the 1967 war.

Although the arguments that al-Sadat's government contrived for the sake of a clash with the Soviet Union and the rupture of all bonds with it, in order to satisfy the American master, have been exploded, it continued its scheme of carrying enmity toward the Soviets to its limits and took the massacre of 3 September 1981 which al-Sadat launched against all the vigorous political forces in society to declare the discovery of a Soviet conspiracy, in participation with a number of Egyptian politicians who purportedly carried out espionage on behalf of the Soviets, which was known at that time, through the yellow press speaking in the name of al-Sadat's government, as "operation sea" and the "apple" and "swamp" cases. On the basis of these trumped-up discoveries, the Soviet ambassador was expelled, along with a number of embassy employees. As soon as al-Sadat disappeared from the picture the socialist prosecutor and the Office of the State Security Prosecutor terminated the case, after fraud and forgery in this charge were discovered, and everyone against whom this lowly charge was directed was released. However, the freeze on relations with the Soviet Union continues, along with the enmity and the campaign against it.

America Is Hostile

It appears that the 1973 experience, which lasted 8 years, is now being repeated by the Arab regimes.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon has laid bare the American role in preparing, executing, protecting and preventing the international community from playing any part in stopping the aggression.

In a report in the British magazine NEW STATESMEN concerning America's arms aid to Israel, Claudia Wright states, "Pentagon figures recently published reveal a comprehensive rise in military aid from the United States to Israel in the first 3 months of this year, which is when Israel was planning to invade Lebanon. In the first quarter of 1982, Israel received 217,695,000 dollars' worth of military equipment from the United States. That is 10 times the value of the military goods Israel received in the same period of 1980 and roughly 50 percent more than the value of the aid in the same period of the previous year. The arms which were mainly responsible for the increase consisted of 10 F-15 aircraft, 14 tank transporting units, 19 self-propelled 155 millimeter howitzers and more than \$60 million worth of rockets and ammunition."

The report also reveals a flow of weapons in the month of May, especially tanks and guided missiles, one or more of which are believed to have been fired at a multi-story residential building near al-Hamra' Street in West Beirut last 6 August. The Israelis believed that the building housed Yasir 'Arafat.

In a television interview with Jack Anderson in America, Ariel Sharon, the Israeli defense minister, revealed that America knew of the aggression before it occurred and that he informed the secretary of state, Alexander Haig, and the minister of defense, Castro Weinberger, in his conversations in Washington on 25 May that Israel would move its forces into Lebanon. Michael Ledeen, Haig's special assistant, asserted "Sharon informed Haig in advance of his plan to go into Lebanon, the American administration knew of the plan since last December, and detailed maps had been sent to Washington."

Washington then flagrantly confirmed its participation in the crime through the use of the right of protest (the veto) three times against all draft resolutions in the Security Council demanding that Israeli withdraw, threatening to prevent it from being supplied with arms or even compelling it to lift the siege on civilians in Beirut, and through the filthy role its emissary to the region, Philip Habib, played.

America was not alone in the city — indeed, almost all the Arab regimes were there:

The Arab countries which assumed the role of onlookers; when the issue of admitting Liberation Organization combatants to their territories was raised, many Arab countries refused to admit them, then bargained to receive financial compensation.

Or the countries which conspired against the Palestinians, or retreated.

Or the countries whose government signed the peace agreement, of which Sholomo Gazit, the former chief of military intelligence, said, "Had we not been able to

rely on this agreement, it would not have been possible for the Israeli defense army to mobilize this large amount of forces in the north and pose this threat to the Lebanese-Syrian front."

It was necessary to look for a hanger on which to suspend all these mistakes and crimes and reduce the intensity of the anger against the United States of America and the governments that are subordinate to it in the region.

Orders were issued to the usual group to attack the Soviet Union, which had not hastened to save the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation from defeat.

The Real Criminals

Let us not get into a sterile argument on the Soviet Union and what it has and has not done.

What concerns us, rather, among all these facts which the Arab governments have been anxious to conceal from their peoples, is that two facts become established in our people's conscience:

First, that the Soviet Union cannot help people who do not help themselves, and we cannot ask it to fight for us while we declare at the top of our voices that the October war will be the last war. Aid and support are offered to people "who do not bow their heads before aggressors."

Second, whatever the Soviet Union's mistake might have been, or the extent to which it can help us, the regimes' mentality of blaming everything on foreign powers, whether America or the Soviet Union, is erroneous and to be rejected. It is a mentality which disregards the internal factor and the intrinsic strength of the Arab nation.

Perhaps we have not yet forgotten that Vietnam defeated America by relying on itself basically, then on Soviet aid and support, which at no point reached the level of participation by Soviet forces in combat.

Perhaps we have also forgotten that the Soviet Union armed and is arming the armies of five Arab countries — Syria, Algeria, Libya, South and North Yemen and Iraq (and previously Egypt, the Sudan and Somalia), which have several times the weapons that Israel has, in terms of quantity and quality.

The real reason for the defeat and for Arab deficiency is not the Israeli army, which, as they say, cannot be defeated, America's hostility and support for Israel through weapons, money and politics, or the Soviet Union's reluctance, as they allege — rather, it is the stand of the Arab regimes, which are pre-occupied only with protecting their falling thrones have a permanent fear of their peoples, and are unanimously in agreement to lessen the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the Palestinian revolution.

Let us look for the real criminals who have put us in the hands of Israel and America and have given them the upper hand in the affairs of the region, distorting the truth and deceiving peoples with illusions of peace with the Israeli American enemy and dreams of American welfare. Otherwise, let us prepare to be dealt a fifth and sixth defeat.

FRENCH JOINT VENTURES PRESENT PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES

Paris L'USINE NOUVELLE in French Nos 32-33-34, 5-12-19 Aug 82 pp 53-55

[Article by Eric Lecourt]

[Text] Thanks be to "infitah"--the policy of economic opening-up adopted by Egypt. It has enabled many French firms to win important contracts, and joint ventures are still one of the best means of thoroughly penetrating the Egyptian market. But the delays of officialdom, the apathy of the local partners, and the shortage of supervisory personnel mean that it is not so easy to set those joint ventures up.

Francois Carlhian has lost track of the number of trips he has made to Cairo, where his company--the French Industrial Products Company (CFPI)--has joined with an Egyptian partner to set up a plant to manufacture chemical products for industry and agriculture. Carlhian, who is a young coordinator of foreign subsidiaries (the CFPI has four), warns: "It might as well be realized from the start that setting up a joint venture means a lot of traveling: shuttling back and forth during the negotiations and then making regular visits to check up on activity." Even in the case of a small plant, considerable personal involvement is required if one expects to penetrate the market quickly. FRAMCHEM has been established in Giza since 1979, employs 35, and has a turnover of more than 40 million francs.

Drawn by the success of French industry's big names (the Cairo subway, the port of Damietta, telephone equipment, and so on), many firms have headed for the banks of the Nile. By participating in numerous development projects, they have benefited greatly from the "infitah" (policy of opening-up) advocated by Anwar al-Sadat and continued by Hosni Mubarak. Our exporters have used any means available, with big contracts being signed and industrial equipment being sold. Last year, Egypt provided France with its second-largest trade surplus, after Switzerland. For COFACE (French Insurance Company for Foreign Trade), the Egyptian market has become the biggest risk it covers (over 15 billion francs outstanding).

Partners Unfamiliar With Industrial Realities

In Egypt, curiously, the French have not hesitated to establish joint ventures with local partners. Even though the number of those ventures is still small--

there are about 20 in the industrial field--the trail has been blazed. And there is no lack of candidates. No fewer than 70 industrialists, impelled by CEPIA (French Center for Industrial Promotion in Africa),* attended the first forum on coinvestment last June. Held in Alexandria under EEC sponsorship, it attracted over 200 representatives of European firms. There the Egyptian authorities explained their economic policy objectives, opened their files, and presented 150 projects, some of which were of Pharaonic proportions and may have discouraged and surprised the European PME [Small and Medium-Size Businesses]. Local investors in the private sector were more realistic and moderate: they were looking for kindred spirits from the West and for operations on a human scale. The first contacts were made in the corridors. The firstfruits of any industrial cooperation, they mark the starting point for a fundamental stage--that of choosing a partner.

"I know my stockholders without knowing them." Has Jean-Yves Lesne, MATAL Egypt's managing director, developed a taste for enigmatic statements? Surely not. In the country of the Sphinx, there is no lack of financial resources, but on the other hand, few investors have any experience with industry. They know nothing about the sector, its rules, or its profitability. And their reactions are sometimes disarming. "They expect everything from us," explains one textile industrialist now engaged in negotiations. "We have done it all: determined the project, chosen the site, and decided on the size of the investment. All they will have to do is put the money on the table!" Real sleeping partners. But they will wake up when the time comes. A few days away from submitting his operating statements to his four Egyptian stockholders for the first time (they hold 12.5 percent each, with MATAL Egypt owning the other 50 percent of the capital), Jean-Yves Lesne had his misgivings. He kept repeating: "I don't know what they expect in the way of dividends."

In this search for the right partner, the French banks (the General Company, the National Bank of Paris, and PARIBAS in particular), which have also gone in for joint ventures, have valuable information. "We are tuned in to the country so as to seize the opportunity when it presents itself," says Raymond Farge, general representative of the General Company, who hastens to add: "And always ready when it is necessary to conduct market studies for evaluating the market." But industrialists who have already passed that stage admit that "the final choice must be made by us and only us." There can be no exceptions to that rule, especially when the future partner is already present in the sector, as was the case for the CFPI, whose partner was already in the chemical trade.

In this kind of operation, the reliability of the partner is more important than the amount of money he brings into the firm. French bankers in Egypt advise: "One should not seek to become the majority stockholder, but rather to have maximum control over the management of the business with a minimum investment." That is easier said than done, because the local partners are watchful. "Foreigners have no need to hesitate. They must contribute capital. Doing so proves their real commitment at our side," explains an official at

* CEPIA: 11, rue Marbeuf, 75008 Paris; telephone: 720-22-03.

Vestia, a joint venture in which Vestra, one of France's top-ranking garment-making groups, owns a 25-percent interest.

The contacts that take place simultaneously with government departments hold a few surprises in store: slow procedures, a multiplicity of agencies to contact, annoyances caused by GOFI (the general agency for foreign investments), and so on. More than one French businessman is exasperated by the pitfall-strewn path. "My partner goes and talks to the government departments," says one Frenchman who is worn out by sitting in waiting rooms. "The notion of appointments does not exist. You sit in an office for hours awaiting your turn. It is up to the French to adapt to Egyptian ways," answers Francois Carlhian, coordinator of foreign subsidiaries for the CPFI (which has four, three of them in Europe).

That lethargy prolongs operations. On average, 3 years elapse between the first contact and the plant's inauguration. But joint ventures with state-owned firms are dealt with more briskly. It took the EMS (a subsidiary of the IDI) 2 years to set up a production unit for industrial rubber parts. And it took Vestra only 6 months to complete its studies, negotiate with its partner, and obtain approval from the authorities. The obstacle course in question is worth the trip. The Egyptian Government grants not inconsiderable financial benefits (particularly credit at preferential rates) and tax benefits (numerous exemptions and facilities for repatriating profits) to joint ventures. Even better, local investors, whether private or government, can benefit from social legislation which is much more flexible than that applying to companies whose capital is strictly domestic.

While projects come into being through the will of the partners, their approval depends strictly on the options chosen by the authorities. This applies particularly to site selection. The Egyptian Government is currently promoting the establishment of industry in the four free zones (Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said, and Suez) and in the vicinity of the new towns. Even mini-investments are welcomed. In a zone still under construction in Alexandria, a young Egyptian engineer has gone into partnership with businessmen from Saint-Etienne. In a shed whose construction cost did not exceed 800 francs per square meter, he has about 30 employees manufacturing windbreaks.

These new firms established on land reclaimed from the desert have their teeth-aching problems thanks to roads that are full of potholes or under construction, a sick telephone system, frequent power outages, and so on. Pierre Favrot says blandly: "The problems are solved as they come up." His firm, located in 10 Ramadan, one of the new towns built near Cairo, was established by Bonna and SOBEA (of the Saint-Gobain group) with the Egyptian Siegwart. It manufactures prestressed concrete pipe. Insufficient local manpower forced the ECPC to recruit workers in the capital. To transport his 650 workers, Pierre Favrot had to set up a company bus system.

The French in Egypt say reassuringly: "These things should not be dramatized." Local legislation also allows the setting up of private free zones for certain projects (construction, petroleum, agriculture, and so on) in areas with better transportation services. On the other hand, it is sometimes difficult to

overcome the problem of supplies of raw materials and semifinished products. Bottlenecks in local production, delayed deliveries, and inadequate import authorizations make inventory management a risky undertaking.

Local Production Using Local Components

Another difficulty mentioned by most European investors concerns the lack of supervisory personnel. "We can find senior executives and skilled workers, but few foremen or middle executives in the fields of finance or management," says Francois Carlhian, who adds: "An expatriate in a high position in the joint venture is indispensable." That is a sacrosanct rule followed by most French firms, even though they often have an Egyptian "in charge of relations with the government" as general manager.

French industrialists have also sensibly concentrated on Egyptian strong points when establishing their joint ventures: tradition in the case of textiles and priority sectors in the case of agriculture, tourism, and housing. In the future, President Hosni Mubarak wants to promote industrial investments in particular. In the past, too many partnerships have been established to set up warehousing units for deliveries to the Arab countries from Egypt. Fu'ad Abu Zaghlal, minister of industry and mineral resources, told L'USINE NOUVELLE: "From now on, we want firms that will produce locally using local components." During the forum in Alexandria, Egyptian authorities clearly called the shot: food processing, building materials, chemicals, electrical equipment, and engineering will be clearly favored. Those are priorities that did not escape the attention of the French present at the forum.

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CSO: 4519/292

'MAY' REPLIES TO OPPOSITION CRITICISM OF EMERGENCY LAW

PM081059 Cairo MAY in Arabic 4 Oct 82 p 7

[Editorial: "The Opposition and the Emergency Law"]

[Excerpts] Around this time a year ago Egypt was shocked by the grave events as a result of which the late President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and a number of martyrs fell victim of an assassination operation, organized by extremist and misguided elements during the 6 October military parade. The assassination conspiracy then was only the tip of the iceberg. Investigations revealed several serious organizations that had misled large numbers of young men, exploited their religious feelings and set up a terrible plan that could have led to much bloodshed and brought God only knows what calamities to the country.

But the Egyptian people's awareness, the stability of Egyptian constitutional institutions and the loyalty of those responsible for these institutions enabled the country at the critical moment of danger to overcome the ordeal, face the sedition and take control of the situation after the arrest of the perpetrators of the crime and the conspirators. [passage omitted]

In these serious conditions and in view of the phenomenon of great extremism, in which violence and terror flourished, religious ignorance and political adventurism went hand in hand, and internal financing [of the conspiracy] and external exploitation were involved, it was necessary for the ruling authority responsible for the country's security and political stability to resort to the emergency law in order to deal with a security situation which, if left to get out of hand, would have led to great dangers. [passage omitted]

A few weeks ago the opposition parties, their newspapers and some of their writers launched a campaign that cannot be understood.

The campaign began with unjust accusations against the government, its prime minister and ministers demanding that the president replace them because they worked or cooperated with the late president, provide the president and the people with wrong information or are hostile to the opposition. The campaign, without justifiable or clear reason, then went on to cast doubts on the

on the regime's attitude toward democratic practices and to accuse the National Democratic Party [NDP] of practising dictatorship simply because some of the opposition members lost in some bye-elections in certain constituencies. The campaign then went on to harp on the theme that the government is creating excuses, fabricating issues and pretending to be arresting new religious extremists preparatory to extending the application of the emergency law so that the opposition parties will remain unable to act, criticize or participate in the democratic dialogue.

Anyone reading the opposition newspapers and their articles and following the opposition conferences would imagine that democracy is facing a crisis in Egypt, that the government has deviated from the court it has set since President Mubarak assumed office and that the extension of the emergency law, if called for by the government, would primarily be directed against freedom of expression and the opposition parties and would revoke the method of dialogue which President Mubarak has been following with the opposition leaders in discussing national issues and important political matters. This false sense that is being created by the opposition accusations lies has been made even more acute by the strident and unobjective language in which some of the opposition writers have responded to the warnings which the president recently made in his speech at the Third NDP Congress, in which he simply tried to tell the opposition that the emergency law is not directed against them, that the dangers that called for it still exist and that they are dangers that do not differentiate between supporters and opposition but threaten the whole of Egyptian society with all its values and institutions. [passage omitted]

The head of state has a right to draw attention to and warn of dangers. The internal security situation still calls for great caution, the terrorist schemes have not yet been crushed, and the external conditions around us affect the internal situation one way or another. So what do the opposition parties fear from the emergency law?

Under this law detainees have been released, opposition parties have resumed their activities, the opposition newspapers that were suspended have resumed publication, and Egyptian political life has witnessed great activity and a broad and constructive dialogue between the president and the opposition leaders in all important matters relating to internal and external events. Despite all the excesses and mistakes the government has not taken one single measure to suppress views and freedom of expression and has not arrested a single politician from the opposition or otherwise. This is despite the fact that the opposition papers are filled with attacks and criticism that often do not serve the cause and sometimes verge on personal attack and libel. [passage omitted]

CSO: 4500/8

MINISTER FORSEES SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN GAS, ELECTRICITY

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 82 pp 13,

[Speech by Minister of Energy Ghafuri-Fard in Bandar 'Abbas]

[Text] Bandar 'Abbas--Brother Ghafuri-Fard, the minister of energy, accompanied by the managing director of Tavanir and several of the deputy directors and experts of this ministry, came to Bandar 'Abbas to visit and study the problems of the large Bandar 'Abbas power plant and were welcomed by Kohzadi, the governor general of Hormozgan, Hojjatoleslam 'Abbasi, the representative of the people of Minab in the Majlis, and several of the authorities of the regional electricity [company] of the Province of Hormozgan.

The minister of energy and his companions went to the Imam Mosque to say farewell to the volunteers for the battlefront of truth against falsehood and wished victory for the Islamic combatants. He then visited the various parts of the large Bandar 'Abbas power plant. Ghafuri-Fard, the minister of energy, said in an interview that his intention in making this visit to the deprived Province of Hormozgan was to study the problems of electricity in the Province and added: For this purpose, the board of directors of the Italian contractors who have signed contracts with us is accompanying us. It is quite unusual for a foreign board of directors to personally make a trip to a country to study and eliminate the existing problems of the machinery. However, we told them explicitly that if the problems of the power plant are not corrected they will effect our economic and political relations with Italy.

In connection with the completion of Bandar 'Abbas power plant, the minister of energy said: Presently, there are four units in this power plant. The first unit is in operation and the second unit will soon join the circuit. When this unit is ready, it will support the power plant unit and we will not need more than that here since the level of consumption is low. The third and fourth units may also join the circuit within the next year. However, we are not in urgent need of them. He added: The

essential problem is that due to a lack of precise planning, the power produced here cannot be effectively transmitted to other areas. However, we have a 230 kilovolt line which transmits electricity from here to Sarcheshmeh and other areas in the Province of Kerman. The amount of increase in the line was somewhat in error. For this reason, we will install another 400 volt line parallel to the first line and we hope that by correcting the deficiencies we will create a correct and precise transmitting system. In connection with the policy of the Ministry of Energy for providing electrical power to the villages, the minister of energy added: This issue is both an instruction of the revolution and also of the great leader of the revolution to work on the villages as soon as possible and it is also a general policy of the government. The minister of energy added: Basically, self-sufficiency in agriculture begins in the villages. In other words, if we are able to provide a minimum of comfort in our villages, then the villager would not come to the city. A villager is a producer in his own village but a consumer in the city. We pay special attention to villages in terms of Islamic and social justice in this respect. Providing water and electricity for the villages takes priority. Providing water is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health and the discovery of water resources that of the Ministry of Energy. In the area of bringing electricity to the villages, we have a 10-year plan. It has been determined that from the period 21 March 1982-20 March 1992, the villages will have electricity. In accordance with the priorities, we have promised to bring electrical power to 1,500 villages every year. In the past two years, we have been ahead of schedule. During the period 21 March-22 September 1982, in which we planned to bring electricity to 750 villages, we have done more. He added: Before the revolution and during the nearly 50 years of the hated reign of the previous regime, only 4,000 villages received electricity. After the revolution, despite all the problems we have had, the shortage of raw materials, the economic embargo, and the shortage of currency reserves, during the first three years of the revolution, 5,000 villages have received electricity. In addition, this year 1,700-1,800 villages will be added to that number.

In connection with our needs for foreign experts for electricity after the revolution, the minister of energy said: In Tavanir alone, there were 1,000 foreign experts who have all left and 99 percent of the operation and transmitting is done by our own experts and committed brothers. In the area of installing power stations and lines, we have reached 100 percent self-sufficiency. For the first time, five units in Khorasan, one unit in Mashhad, and four units in Shirvan have been installed by our hardworking brothers at a cost which is one-fifth the cost of installation by foreign experts previously.

The minister of energy added: We have a plan to achieve self-sufficiency in the area of steam and water turbine power plants. In regards to the building of power plants, we also have a plan under study to determine the schedule for their being built. Mr Shafuri-Fard then referred to the completion of Minab Dam and added: The construction of this dam has been completed and, God willing, it will be in operation this year and the previous problem will be corrected. Concerning the transfer of water, the Tehran water organization has been invited to do the planning at this stage and thusfar, they have made some progress.

9593

CSO: 4640/3

P.M. ANNOUNCES COORDINATED STRATEGY AGAINST INTERNAL AGENTS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 13 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] TEHRAN (IRNA) -- All measures against U.S. lackeys and internal plots have been coordinated and the government's political sovereignty remains stronger than ever before, announced Prime Minister Mir Hussein Musavi yesterday morning after the cabinet session.

The prime minister was elaborating on the measures enacted for the domestic security of the country when he said the MKO suffered a great blow after Mum Khinbani (No. 2 man of the MKO) was killed and their organization was destroyed and lost its balance, and when their contacts with provinces were cut.

He said Iran will face these cabals as long as the Islamic Revolution treads its original path.

These groups target the people, continued the prime minister, for they are incapable of doing anything. He added that this attested to their weakness. He went on to say that a group which claims

to be dependent on the nation, had placed itself against the populace and now had reached the end of the line.

Speaking on the war, the prime minister said that Iranian forces were ready to inflict the last determining blows on the enemy and that Iran's readiness was greater than any time before in ideological, spiritual, and material aspects. He said these readiness had given us the chance for the realization of our terms.

He also said that Iran will resort to fulfilling its terms by arms, if other avenues are of no use.

He further refuted Saddam's claims Saturday of having destroyed an Iranian ship in Persian Gulf waters and said that Saddam had lost face because of his lies and that British insurance companies had announced the falsity of such a claim, and hence Iraq lost political face.

He also said that the situation in the Persian Gulf region

was very good and that its forces were ready to inflict heavy blows on the enemy, and that it was natural for Iraq to threaten us with its sophisticated technology, but Iran has proved over the past two months the futility of Iraqi regime's threat.

The prime minister condemned the Iraqi regime's cabals in Mecca this year, printing an erroneous and distorted Quran with a picture of Imam Khomeini and portraying it to be on behalf of Iran, and that other pilgrims who observed Iran's behavior and their ideology were the best of judges.

He said that the recognition by deprived nations of Iran has attested to this, such as the participation of the Bangladesh religious leader, who leads more than 40 million Sunni Moslems, well indicated that the message of our Islamic Revolution has reached the downtrodden nations of the world and it will soon reach all corners of the globe.

'MUTUAL STANCE' TO BE ADOPTED BY IRAN, SYRIA AGAINST ZIONISM

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Sep 82 pp 2, 15

[Text] In order to confront and neutralize the conspiracies of the criminal United States and the Zionist regime and to speak with the authorities of Syria, yesterday morning, Ahmad 'Azizi, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, left Tehran for Damascus.

Before his departure, he took part in an interview with the correspondent of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY and, referring to the conspiracies of the United States and the aggressive Zionists to occupy and annex more of the Islamic lands, he said: Since the beginning of the occupation of Palestine and the creation of the Zionist regime, the expansionist plans of the Zionists and the Americans to annex more of the Islamic lands has been pursued. After the infamous Camp David Accords and the trip of the destroyed Sadat to occupied Palestine, these plans were expedited. In this connection, the aid of the reactionary regimes was also part of the infamous Camp David Accords. He said: With the victory of the magnificent Islamic revolution and its spread throughout the world, the United States and the Zionist regime were forced to expedite their expansionist movements and plans in the region. Despite the fact that their treacherous plans had not yet been completed, the reflection of this action was the violence against and massacre of thousands of innocent people in southern Lebanon. The Zionists and the Americans thought that with planning and coordination with the reactionary regimes, they would be able to put into action their sinister goals in a few days, but such did not occur. The deputy minister of foreign affairs of our country called the present situation of the region very dangerous and said: The events in the region move towards the United States, aided by the reactionary, puppet regimes in the region who are suffering from narcissism and ambition, trying to have Israel recognized. They play with the goals of Palestine and want to cast to the wind the fruit of the years of bloody struggle of the Palestinian fighters and the Islamic people in the region.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic of Iran, which has never, since the victory of the Islamic revolution, waivered in its support for the goal of Palestine, has sympathized with them, has continuously been the enemy of the criminal Israel, and has not hesitated in every step and action to neutralize the conspiracies of global oppression. And this trip is based on this support. The Islamic Republic of Iran has found it necessary to exchange views with the friends of the Islamic revolution and those countries which are confronting Zionism and the United States on stopping the hands of the criminal United States and Israel in the region.

'Azizi said: On this trip, the joint resources of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria will be studied and coordinated in order to neutralize the conspiracies of the United States. We hope, with the help of God and the efforts of the Islamic combatants, that these conspiracies will be defeated.

The deputy minister of foreign affairs of our country emphasized once again the overall readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to make its military forces available to confront the Zionist enemy and to cooperate with those countries which sincerely confront the Zionists. He said: As we have sent our forces before to confront the Zionist regime, today we are prepared for any kind of military cooperation. We consider this action a religious and humane duty towards the deprived and Muslim nation. 'Azizi added: On this trip, the anti-Islamic proposal of King Fahd and similar proposals as well as the conspiracy to recognize the Zionist regime at the Fez conference will be discussed with the Syrian authorities, because these plans are also among the conspiracies of the United States and the Zionist regime. According to this report, the deputy minister of foreign affairs was seen off at Mehrabad Airport by Major General Ebrahim Yunos, the ambassador of Syria to Iran.

Arrival in Damascus

Mr 'Azizi was welcomed in Damascus by the Syrian deputy minister of foreign affairs and the ambassador and employees of the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Damascus.

After his arrival in Damascus, Mr 'Azizi explained the objectives of his visit in an interview. He said: The very sensitive and dangerous current conditions which have dominated the region since the aggression of Israel on Lebanon, which is about to serve the interests of imperialism with the help of many of the reactionary Arab rulers, has caused us to come to this country for discussions and exchanges of views with the authorities of the friendly brother country of Syria.

He added: Our discussions with the Syrian authorities will be to coordinate our common positions to prevent the filthy imperialist-Zionist objectives in the region.

The Syrian deputy minister of foreign affairs said in an interview with the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY in Damascus, expressing his pleasure in Mr 'Azizi's visit: Naturally, this visit is of special importance because at a time when the imperialists and Zionists intend to dominate the entire region, consultation will take place between the governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria, so that they may take a common position against the enemies of the Palestinian revolution. Since relations between the two countries are very good, we hope that this visit and other visits to establish more coordination in relation with current issues will be very beneficial.

During his two-day visit, Mr 'Azizi will meet with the president and the foreign minister of Syria.

9593

CSO: 4640/477

FOREIGN MINISTRY STRONGLY DENOUNCES FEZ MOVE

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 11 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] TEHRAN (IRNA) Following last night's resolution of the Arab leaders in Fez, Morocco, calling for the recognition of the Zionist regime, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic issued an announcement yesterday harshly condemning the decision.

The announcement said that this event would be a clear example for the Moslem peoples of the world to witness the cooperation of the reactionary Arab leaders with world arrogance and international Zionism.

The announcement, released in five articles, further said that the recognition of the Zionist regime in the Fez summit "was a confirmation by the participating Arab leaders of the occupation of Palestine and Bait ul Moqaddas (Jerusalem) and the numerous aggressions of the criminal US and Zionism on Islamic territory."

It added that these aggressions had humiliated the Islamic peoples during the 34 years since the establishment of the Qods occupier regime.

"The recognition is in fact a sign of complete heedlessness to the innocence of the homeless people of Palestine and is an outstanding example of the cooperation of a portion of the reactionary Arab leaders

with world arrogance and international Zionism aimed at fulfilling the Camp David process," the announcement said.

The Foreign Ministry announcement said further that the Palestinian issue could be solved only by rooting out this cancerous tumor, the Zionist regime, from the region. It said that the continuation of unabated struggle of the Moslem people with faith in God, would guarantee the freedom of Qods and the occupied lands of Palestine.

During the past week officials of the Islamic Republic, especially Imam Khomeini, had warned the Arab leaders not to give any concessions to the aggressor Zionists. However, many of them indicated that there was little hope that the reactionary rulers would heed the call of the Islamic Republic.

The announcement which was read by a Foreign Ministry spokesman to IRNA yesterday afternoon, also said that the usurper Zionists would continue their unabated aggressions with the full support of the United States so as to achieve their long-awaited goal of occupying Islamic lands from the Nile to the Tigris.

"Retreating against the desires of arrogance and Zion

ism and the granting of these concessions would only pave the road for future aggressions of the criminal Israel for continuing its humiliating policies and would give them more impudence and courage," the Foreign Ministry stressed.

The statement continued that more than one billion Moslems worldwide were now more than ever sympathizing with the Palestinian ideal after the current wave of vicious aggressions by the Zionists against the Palestinian fighters.

"Such a conciliatory action as this is certainly not accepted by the peoples of these (Arab) countries and would surely strengthen the determination of millions of Moslems in supporting the Palestinian cause and for final struggle against oppression and Zionism and the dependent regimes (of the region)," it said.

The announcement concluded that the Islamic Republic considered this to be its Islamic duty to give its all-out support to the Palestinian cause and their struggle for the liberation of Palestine and it added that in this path it would be alongside the Palestinian people until the achievement of final victory.

FEZ RESOLUTION BETRAYS PALESTINIANS--PRESIDENT

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 11 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) -- "The Islamic Republic of Iran is the only country today which is acting according to Islam, and you should convey this message to the people of the world," said President Seyyed Ali Khamenei here Thursday.

Iranian ambassadors and charge d'affaires to Western European countries and cultural attaches of the Ershad Islami (Guidance) Ministry all over the world, met with the president along with Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad Azizi as well as the International Undersecretary of Ershad Islami Ministry Asgharzadeh, Thursday.

Addressing the visiting group, President Khamenei said "Your task, in fact, is to establish a connection between the Islamic Revolution and the foreign countries. Your activities outside the country, from the political and cultural view point, form the external body of the Islamic Revolution and if you fail to explain facts, you will have paved the way for the emergence of hostile comments and reports. The revolution does not belong

to us here only, but rather should be propagated among the people in the world who are eager to get its message. To contain the revolution within our own territory, would be to bring it to its destruction."

He reminded that the cultural attaches were responsible to spread the rich culture of Iran to the outside countries.

Referring to the U.S.-Zionist regime's scenario against Palestinians and the Fez Conference, he said the Fez assembly was a measure to complete the conspiracies of the recent three month-long attack to Lebanon. The president expressed his regret over the stand of the Fez Summit for neutralizing the massive revolutionary move of the Palestinians.

"We as the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran do not accept the approvals of this conference at all and condemn any decision meant to put an end to struggles and movements of the Palestinians and consider it a betrayal of the Palestinians," the president concluded.

FEZ SUMMIT REVEALS TRUE FACES OF HYPOCRITES

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 11 Sep 82 p 1

[Article by M. J. Sahlani]

[Text]

AFTER closed door secretive deliberations the Arab leaders in the just concluded Fez Summit have revealed their true face. The "hypocrite" rulers of the Arab States have at long last disclosed what they have been actually trying to conceal without really saying so.

What has just ended began, as events indicate, as a well orchestrated plan to dismantle another fortress of the brave Moslems and Palestinians which had been erected in South Lebanon and to show up Israel as a militarily irresistible power.

The peoples of the world have seen how the Zionists have unsparingly attacked Lebanon killing innocent men, women and children for almost 80 days helplessly mowing them down with the most sophisticated weapons at their disposal. In all this time these Arab leaders showed little or no reaction whatsoever and stood by watching and waiting.

Yet we must thank God for what has happened because if they had reacted as they should have then the people of their countries would have taken a longer time to realize the depth of their hypocrisy. But now all Moslems, Arabs and those watching with keen interest the power play of the criminal Zionists on the world scene attempting to obtain through fair means or foul their "Promised Land" know for certain that it was not only Israel together with the U.S. and others who have plotted to deprive a Moslem people of their rights to a homeland. All know for certain that most hypocrite Arab regimes have also clandestinely acquiesced in this conspiracy.

The God-fearing people of Iran and the faithful of the world are in no doubt that all these Satanic moves are far from being taken lightly by the Moslems directly affected and in fact by the Moslems of the world to whom every wrong to any of their brother Moslems in whatever region of the world it may be is a personal affront that should not go unavenged.

All true Moslems are aware that these moves are only like flitting mirages which will eventually disappear when the right moves are made by the truth seeking people to undo what is being done. We saw what the spiritual fervor of the Iranian people was able to bring about when they confronted what was once the strongest fortress of the Great Satan in the Middle East -- the regime of the defeated shah.

CSO: 4600/8

SADDAM AN IMPERIALIST AGENT--TISHRIN

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Sep 82 pp 1, 4

[Text]

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) - Syrian President Hafez Assad, fresh from a trip to Morocco where he attended the Arab Summit Conference, decided Saturday to send a special envoy to Iran with a message to explain the results of the Arab meeting in Fez it was announced here.

The Syrian state radio reported that upon his return home from Morocco, Assad found a letter from Iranian President Ali Khamenei awaiting him.

It said the Iranian letter dealt with the same subject, the Arab Summit.

Assad took time off from Summit meetings last Wednesday and conferred with his arch-rival, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein under the auspi-

ces of Saudi Arabian King Fahd.

It appeared that Fahd was trying to arrange a rapproche-

ment between the two leaders with a view to bringing the Iraq-Iran war to an end.

Syria supports Iran against Iraq.

Hours after the Assad-Hussein meeting in Morocco, the government-run radio in Damascus said "No reconciliation had taken place with Iraq."

The government newspaper Tishrin printed a commentary in which the Iraqi president was dubbed "an imperialist-agent." It said that Hussein and President-Elect Bashir Gemayel of Lebanon are "identical, small agents (of imperialism) and puppets."

CSO: 4600/9

RAFSANJANI COMMENTS ON ISSUES DISCUSSED AT DEFENSE COUNCIL

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 5 Sep 82 p 3

[Text] The situation on the war fronts, the situation with regard to the dispatched forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Syria, the proposals of the Algerian foreign minister, and the future movements on the fronts were all issues discussed in last night's meeting of the Supreme Council of Defense.

In this meeting, headed by President Hojjatoleslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, with the participation of Hojjatoleslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the representative of the imam in the Supreme Council of Defense; Engineer Musavi, the prime minister; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, the head of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Colonel Salimi, minister of defense; Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the Guards Corps; along with Hojjatoleslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni; Dr Velayati, the foreign minister; Sham'khani, the deputy commander of the Guards Corps; and Kamal Karrazi, the head of the war propaganda headquarters. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said about the issues discussed in this meeting: A report from the southern, western, and central fronts was presented. Considering the evacuation of the Palestinians from Lebanon, we also had a report concerning our forces which were sent to Syria in connection with the occupation of Lebanon. Dr Velayati also presented a report on the statements of the Algerian foreign minister. He added: Concerning the future moves on the fronts, discussions were held and decisions made. We also spoke of the war equipment and resources in this meeting.

The Proposals of Algeria

Then, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in regards to the proposals of the Algerian foreign minister: He has many proposals, including some in connection with the Algerian communique, since they are mediating. In connection with our conditions for ending the war, he also had suggestions which were discussed. After discussions, it was determined that we should report to the imam in order to know of his opinion. In regards to the conformity of the proposals of the Algerian foreign ministry with the conditions of

Iran, he said: These proposals do not yet conform with our conditions; however, they have made some progress.

The representative of the imam in the Supreme Council of Defense then said about the situation of the dispatched forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Syria: The situation in Lebanon is still somewhat ambiguous. The problem will certainly not be over very soon. The occupation of Lebanon is not something the Muslims will forget so easily. Although the Palestinians have gone, the expansionism of Israel will not remain unanswered. Naturally, we will not be able to make the final decision about our forces there. We are waiting to see what decisions the Islamic countries and Arab countries make before we decide what to do, depending on what the future requires.

Loading of Ships at Khark

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani then said concerning the situation with regard to loading the oil tankers at Khark Island and the defensive powers of the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran: As I mentioned at the Friday prayers, there are no air attacks on Khark Island. There are only unaimed missile shots from a distance. This action is militarily worthless. For instance, they shoot 100 missiles and accidentally 1 of them might hit something and cause some damage while the rest fall in the desert or in the water.

He added: This action is nothing new. For a long time, the Iraqis have been shooting missiles at Khark Island. However, what is new is that they are making noises about it. The Westerners especially have spread the news to frighten the ships from coming and loading. But, so far, they have been unable to achieve their objective. In other words, they are still coming and still loading.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed hope that the transportation companies would rest assured knowing that there is no danger.

He added: Iranian insurance has agreed to insure the ships and with this offer, other insurance companies will have no excuse. In any case, we do not have any important problems at Khark.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: We have very good security there and we protect the area to the depths. No airplane would dare come close. The claim about air raids is an absolute lie. Any airplane which would even come within a far distance from Khark would be shot down.

The Issue of the Closure of the Straits of Hormuz

The representative of the imam in the Supreme Council of Defense then said concerning the rumors which have been spread about the closure of the Straits of Hormuz by the Islamic Republic of Iran: We say something and they interpret it any way they choose. At the beginning of the war, too, they said several times that Iran might want to close the Straits of Hormuz. The Persian Gulf is vital to us. We do not wish the Persian Gulf to be insecure or the Straits of Hormuz to be closed. What we said was that if the hostile powers were to make the Persian Gulf and its resources insecure for us, so that the security of the Persian Gulf would be maintained for others but not for us, we would consider this unreasonable. We said that it was their policy to deprive us of our monetary resource of oil and that if such would happen, we would make the Straits insecure--we did not say closed--in order to prevent them from taking oil. We have no other resources there than oil and they must remain open.

Continuation of Struggle against Zionism

Concerning the possibility of the reuniting of the Palestinian forces and the continuation of the struggle against Zionism, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The issue of Palestine will not be silenced. The evacuation of the Palestinians from Lebanon was a blow and we lost an opportunity. In any case, they are an oppressed, refugee nation with a heroic history. They are prepared to give their lives for their homeland. Presently, the majority of that force is in Syria and their reuniting will not be too difficult. Of course, it will require planning, decisions, and good leadership.

He added: As long as Israel exists in the region, the fire of the struggle against Zionism will not be put out. Any time they spread some ashes over it, it will flame up again.

Concerning the aim of the so-called new Reagan plan, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The Reagan plan might give one or two small concessions to the Arabs, but it demands a large concession in return.

The Mobilization of the Palestinian Forces

The representative of the imam in the Supreme Council of Defense then said about the actions of the Islamic Republic of Iran to mobilize the Palestinian forces: We consider the issue of Palestine a continuation of our revolution and we believe that as long as the issue of Palestine remains unresolved and the Israeli menace remains in the region, this region will have no peace and our revolution will remain incomplete. For the sake of world peace, Palestine should be returned to its rightful owners and

this is what we are after. Of course, while we are at war here, our resources for help there are limited. When we are free of the imposed war of Iraq, we might be able to employ more resources on the Palestinian front.

The Non-Aligned Movement Conference

Concerning the conference of the foreign ministers and leaders of the non-aligned movement, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: It has become quite clear that the conference of leaders and ministers cannot be held in Baghdad. If this issue is raised once again, we will not allow it. As to the question of where it should be held, in my opinion, the most appropriate place thusfar is Delhi and no serious opposition has been raised thusfar to holding the conference in Delhi. He added: On the whole, I predict that the conference will be held in Delhi. And we insist that this conference be held as soon as possible. However, India might have some problems in this regard.

Future Movement in the War

The representative of the imam in the Supreme Council of Defense said concerning the future movement on the war fronts: We believe that Iraq will not accept justice and the supporters of Iraq will not allow it to do so. As we have said from the beginning, we prefer that this war end as soon as possible and the killing stop. In every operation that we undertake, a number of our forces are martyred, a number of Iraqis are killed, and there is also financial damage. But we will not surrender our conditions. We still follow our past policy. Whenever we make a move, we give [them] a chance. Especially now, when there are discussions in Nigeria and they are trying to bring our views closer to each other, we are holding ourselves back somewhat to provide the opportunity for those who might truly want to end the war to be able to do so and end the war without further bloodshed. However, experience has shown us that neither Iraq nor its supporters want to submit to the truth. Therefore, following the instructions of the imam who asked the people to go to the front, I have also requested that the people go to the front and be prepared until everything comes out in the open and the world realizes that it is Iraq which does not agree to submit to the truth and that we will continue the war with all our combative power.

He added: As was clear from the beginning, the war will eventually end with a decisive blow. We thought that the Khorramshahr blow or the Ramadan operations when we broke through important parts of the Iraqi border and made advances--although we did not want to take the war to areas where there were civilians--would be sufficient; however, we see that they were not enough. They are both being mischievous and propagandizing.

This time, we also have given them a chance and are waiting to see where these negotiations will end. If they keep insisting on their past positions, we must make our final decision. Of course, we have already tentatively made our final decision and are keeping ourselves prepared. We believe that it would be unreasonable to assume that Saddam would give in. However, in order to prevent casualties as much as possible, we have set limitations on this chance. In conclusion, Mr Rafsanjani said: If we see that such chances are fruitless or have the opposite result, God willing, our people and the world will witness that despite all our patience, we will have to end the problem by force.

END

ISIRI: 4640/482

KHOEINIHA CONDEMNS ARREST, HARASSMENT OF IRAN'S PILGRIMS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 13 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

MEDINA (IRNA) -- Hojjatoleslam Mumavi Khomeiniha, Imam Khomeini's representative responsible for Iranian Hajj pilgrims, Saturday harshly condemned the arrest of a number of Iranian pilgrims and stressed that nothing could stop them from fulfilling their Islamic duties.

In a note of protest to the Saudi Arabian Interior Minister Navef Bin Abdul Aziz, Hojjatoleslam Khomeiniha called for the immediate release of the Iranian pilgrims and for the adoption of an Islamic attitude by the Saudi officials so as not to harm their government's prestige before the world Moslems.

The protest note said that the Friday gathering of the Iranian Moslems was aimed at further uniting Moslems against their main enemies . . . the U.S., the Soviet Union and the Zionist regime.

But, the note added, in a one-sided official statement released by Saudi mass media, it had been claimed that what had taken place was of a political nature and not in conformity with Hajj rituals. It further argued, that to invite and encourage Moslems towards further unity and to express hatred against the Zionist regime and its masters was out of

religious duties, especially in great Hajj ceremony.

Hojjatoleslam Khomeiniha, stressed that evidences showed that Moslems of other countries welcomed Iran's stance and called on the Saudi Interior Minister to prepare for the meeting of Moslems at Al-Nabi Mosque on a Friday, without interference of Saudi security forces, to be convinced of this fact.

The Saudi police, the note said, in a position indicating that they had prepared for the suppression of this Divine Move, not only surrounded the marchers but also displayed their force against a nation's people which had brought U.S. to its knees in Islamic Iran. The police, with no excuse, attacked women who had sacrificed their spouses or brothers for the sake of Islam or those who had lost their limbs in the course of the Islamic Revolution, Hojjatoleslam Khomeiniha remarked.

He stressed that the arrest of Majlis representatives was an insult to 40 million Moslem Iranian combatants and the uncompromising enemies of the U.S. and the Zionist regime.

He argued, how could the Moslem revolutionary people of Iran remain silent concerning such vicious acts.

Meanwhile, AP reports from Riyadh said Saudi security forces arrested 21 Iranian pilgrims during a demonstration in the Holy City of Madina yesterday, the third by the revolution-minded Iranians in the past five days, an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

He said the pilgrims were summoned to a rally in front of the Iranian diplomats mission in Madina by Hojjatoleslam Mumavi Khomeiniha, the representative of Imam Khomeini to this year's Moslem pilgrimage season.

Saudi security forces broke up the rally, which featured (Imam) Khomeini portraits and "banners not related to religion," and arrested 21 participants, the spokesman said.

He said those will be returned to Iran "because they came here for a purpose other than pilgrimage."

Interior Ministry statements on the two previous demonstrations -- the largest was on Friday and comprised of "several thousands" -- did not refer to any arrests.

The Iranians have been accused of trying to start trouble in Madina by circulating revolutionary political slogans and denouncing the recent Arab Summit Conference in Fez.

Shi'ite Moslems staged a bloody siege of the Holy Shrine of Al Kaaba in November 1979. The unprecedented event led to public behead of more than 60 participants in Saudi Arabia.

According to another report: Iranian pilgrims demonstrated in the Saudi Arabian city of Medina yesterday shouting anti-U.S., anti-Soviet

and anti-Israel slogans, Tehran radio reported.

The radio quoted a reporter in the Saudi city, as saying the demonstrators marched in the streets then gathered in Khar Square where they held a ceremony.

Saudi police ringed the demonstrators during the march, according to the radio.

Saudi authorities, keen on preventing any anti-Iraq politi-

cal activities by the Iranian pilgrims, have announced precautionary security measures to resist any attempt to mix politics with religion during the Hajj seasons.

The Iranians were among an estimated half million Moslems from around the world who are in Saudi Arabia for next week's three-day Hajj (pilgrimage) ceremonies in Mecca.

CSO: 4600/10

KHOEINIHA REVEALS SAUDI PLOT TO WORLD HAJJ PILGRIMS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

MEDINA . (IRNA) -- The Saudi police's inhuman behavior with the Hajj pilgrims was condemned by Musavi Khomeiniha, Imam Khomeini's representative responsible for Iranian Hajj pilgrims.

Addressing the Hajj pilgrims of the world, Khomeiniha in his message exposed the brutality and un-Islamic behavior of the Saudi Police who did not even spare women cripples.

In his message, Hojatoleslam Khomeiniha asked

" If the Pilgrims of other countries knew that Iranian Hajj pilgrims were beaten and insulted by the Saudi agents, because of expressing their hatred against the U.S. and the Zionist regime.

" If the Moslems of world knew that the Saudi government expelled some Iranian Hajj pilgrims, just because they performed their Islamic duties.

" If the Moslems knew that the great and aged religious scholar of Medina and the mass prayers leader of the Shia mosque of this town Sheik Muhammad-Ali Umravi, was jailed by Saudi police, because he conferred with Imam Khomeini's envoy and for the simple reason that

Iranians offered their prayers in that mosque.

" If the Moslems knew that the office of the Imam Khomeini's envoys was surrounded by the agents of the Saudi Kingdom.

" If Moslems knew that a great many Iranian Hajj pilgrims were thrown into Saudi jails.

" If the Moslems knew that Saudi policemen, contrary to Islamic regulations, treated the Iranian Hajj pilgrims with disrespect and captured the property of many of them.

" If the Moslems knew that following the Fez conference, and the plots of the U.S. and the Arab reactionary regimes in order to recognize the Zionist regime and to set up a pro-Zionist regime in Lebanon, the government of the Saudi Kingdom put the Moslems under pressure while these Moslems emphasized Islamic unity to eliminate the Zionist regime.

Hojatoleslam Khomeiniha condemned the unpopular behaviour of Saudi agents and said that no one could deprive the Iranian Moslems of performing the Hajj pilgrimage.

He, then, asked all the Iranian Hajj pilgrims to do their religious duties peacefully and with discipline.

'DEATH OF A TRAITOR'

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 82 p 1

[Article by Muhammad Salman Tawhidi]

[Text]

QOTBZADEH, the man who betrayed trust after trust and abused kindness after kindness, has finally died. His death was no more than the just end of his deeds. Found guilty of attempting to destroy the Islamic government, he was sentenced to death and executed.

Qotbzadeh enjoyed a certain amount of fame in the world at large and, for this reason, we expect that the world will be forced to witness a "public outcry" that will be largely conducted by the western media. How many deaths will go unobserved, how many instances of murder, how many made homeless, how many will die throughout the world under torture, how many innocent women will be raped by soldiers as the western media ignores all this and focuses on the execution of Sadeq Qotbzadeh, trying to use it to alienate world opinion even further from the truth of the Islamic Revolution !!.

The execution of Sadeq Qotbzadeh is an instance of Islamic justice, and here is not the place to discuss Islamic justice at length. We will say, however, that it is a system of justice infinitely more just than the system of justice of the west. It does not have its idiosyncracies for one thing. There is never a question of a person receiving a lesser sentence or of the charges being totally dropped simply due to the offender's high social rank, position or wealth.

Islam is a system of government that has come to benefit the people as a whole, and to be able to do that it has established fixed laws that no one can negate. Amongst these laws is that those who

turn to violent, hypocritical means to destroy the Islamic state along with those who maintain it, simply to satisfy their own evil desires and the even more evil desires of those they serve, must be executed. There is no choice in the matter. This is a law of God, a law of the Quran, and there is nothing to be discussed.

We are Moslems. Sadeq Qotbzadeh was a Moslem, and the people of Iran have voted and made great sacrifices for their Islamic state. Therefore, the government of Iran is not only religiously bound to deliver the Divine law, but also ethically and constitutionally bound.

Furthermore, as Hojjatoleslam Rafsanjani has explained, the officials of the Islamic Republic have the right not to be in constant danger of their lives, while the nation of Iran has the right not to be in constant danger of losing the regime that it has voted and made so many sacrifices for. And the threat of the death penalty is one way of acquiring that right. The vast majority of the people of Iran love their Islamic government. They consider it to be their right. And, in the Divine law, God has provided them the means of maintaining that right.

CSO: 4600/11

QOTBZADEH FOUND GUILTY, EXECUTED FOR TREASON

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh was executed Wednesday night according to a verdict issued by the Army Revolutionary Tribunal, approved by the High Judicial Court, it was announced Thursday.

Qotbzadeh, arrested in early April, went before a firing squad for masterminding a plot to overthrow the Islamic Republic and kill the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeini.

The first branch of the Army Revolutionary Tribunal issued the text of the verdict, a death sentence, for former foreign minister Qotbzadeh who was convicted of masterminding a plot to overthrow the Islamic Republic. The text is as follows:

About a year and a half ago, Qotbzadeh was released after being held for a few days. Reports indicated that he was involved in activities against the Islamic Republic.

Asqar Mohajer, a member of "Pars" splinter group (Guardians of Monarchy), who was later executed, confessed during interrogations that he had had connections with Qotbzadeh.

Later, a member of the "Rezaizadeh monarchist group, Col. Seirafi who also went before a firing squad, quoted one of Qotbzadeh's co-conspirators as saying that the former foreign minister and a number of military personnel intended to form a military government.

At this point the case was still at the planning stage and a number of officials intended to summon Qotbzadeh, warn him and thus save him from his present fate.

Further inquiries revealed that Qotbzadeh had connections with some reactionary regimes in the region, such as Saudi Arabia, and a number of Western countries, particularly the U.S., and with some pseudo religious persons, including Seyyed Kazem Shariatmadari. He had also had some contacts with local tribal chiefs.

The issue became critical when, simultaneous with the extensive victories of the Islamic combatants of Iran against Iraqi forces, Qotbzadeh proposed to his co-conspirators to assassinate officials, such as the commander of the ground forces and members of the Supreme Defense Council.

Above all, according to available tapes of his conversa-

tions, he proposed the assassination of Imam Khomeini. He insisted on this and promised to provide all facilities in this connection, including money.

At this point officials deemed it necessary to arrest Qotbzadeh, although if he was further left under surveillance many of his co-conspirators would be arrested as well. However, since the Imam's assassination had been designed and an attempt was inevitable, his arrest was considered necessary.

Upon his arrest he denied all charges but when he was told that officials were informed of the case, he confessed to perhaps one percent of the present information about him. However, he confessed to two of his convictions, both receiving the death penalty:

1- Masterminding the plot to overthrow the Islamic Republic, taking steps in this connection, distributing money among his collaborators, and dispatching envoys abroad to coordinate opposition wings and receive money from them.

Qotbzadeh's defense that he did not intend to overthrow the Islamic Republic but to change officials in order to build

up the real republic was rejected since

A- This is an easy excuse that anyone can resort to.

B- With a careful study of the file of his case and with regard to Qotbzadeh's moral corruption, not included in the indictment, it was crystal clear for the court that his objective has been to overthrow the Islamic Republic itself, not merely "certain officials."

C- From the religious point of view, any person who embarked on an armed revolt against the Islamic Republic would receive a death sentence

which is true in the case of Qotbzadeh and therefore the last thing that 'anyone like Qotbzadeh would confess' to.

2- To design the plot for the assassination of high-ranking officials including Imam Khomeini, making the provision of a house and a sum of RIs 7,500,000 (about 100,000 dollars), and recruiting the required personnel.

His defense claim that he wanted to oppose the Imam's assassination in forthcoming sessions is also rejected since there is no evidence to support

such a claim. Secondly, everybody knows that so long as the Imam is within the nation, no plot could succeed. Thirdly, available tapes and information indicate that his plot for the Imam's martyrdom was decisive and underway, but failed to be successful with God's mercy and awareness of the officials.

Therefore, the verdict concluded, Qotbzadeh was a seditious and corrupt element who should receive a death penalty.

Sentences of other Qotbzadeh's co-conspirators will be announced soon.

CSO: 4600/11

REZA'I SAYS IRANIANS 100 KM FROM BAGHDAD

GF091728 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Shiraz, 9 Oct (IRNA)--During the first year of the Iraqi imposed war is a result of treachery of former President Abolhasan Bani-sadr and also due to lack of experience and readiness, the Iraqis were able to occupy large parts of Iranian territory, said the commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), Mohsen Reza'i here Friday.

The IRGC commander who was addressing the Friday prayers congregation further added that, in the second year of the war, after Abni-Sadr was ousted, despite all the help extended to Iraq, including the French-made missiles, along with Soviet and Saudi help, Iraq was still unable to keep the territories it had captured from Iran thus resulting in the Iranian forces recovery of its land.

In the continuation of his speech, Reza'i said that at present global infidelity was fighting against an oppressed people as well as against Islam.

He further said that all the superpowers have concentrated their efforts in Iraq because their intention is to suppress the truth.

As for the present situation of the Iranian forces, he said that they were now 100 kms from the Iraqi capital of Baghdad and in the recent offensive launched in the western fronts, the Iranian forces took control of several strategic heights. The recent victories of the Iranian forces, he added, has enabled them to exercise control over a vast area of land ahead of them, further saying that for its defence Iraq would have to use four military units.

However, since Iraq lacked such military resources, the Iranian forces by making an advance of another 40 kms, would have Baghdad within their artillery range, Reza'i added.

CSO: 4600/29

TEHRAN ARABIC CITES KHO'INIHA STATEMENT

GF091838 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Hojjat Ol-eslam Musavi Kho'iniha, the Imam's representative and the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, has issued a statement on the attack which the forces of the Saudi regime launched against the Iranian pilgrims in Medina, which led to the insuring of more than 100 of them.

Hojjat Ol-eslam Kho'iniha referred in his statement to the agency of the Saudi regime of international arrogance and the efforts this regime exerts in order to preserve U.S. interests and to consecrate the presence of the Zionist entity in the region. The statement also strongly denounced the savage attack which the Saudi authorities launched against the Iranian pilgrims. The statement referred to Muslim awareness of the Muslims and the intensification of their struggle against the arrogant powers indicating that the influence of the criminal United States and the other arrogant [powers] has been reduced in the Islamic world.

As for the support which the reactionary regimes in the region and the United States for Saddam, Hojjat Ol-eslam Kho'iniha said in his statement: Let the Saudi Government know that Saddam and his agent regime cannot last and it cannot save Saddam from falling even if it employs for this goal all the power it has, for this power is ineffective before the power of the eternal God. The statement warned that the Saudi Government is responsible for caring for the injured Iranians. It also warned that practicing oppressive measures to impose despotism against the popular masses will hasten the comprehensive upheaval of the Muslims and the oppressed in the world.

CSO: 4600/29

TEHRAN TRADE FAIR ATTENDED BY 23 COUNTRIES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 82 pp 13, 2

[Text] The eighth international Tehran exhibition of inventions and innovations was opened by the minister of commerce of our country this morning at 10 o'clock.

According to the economic correspondent of KEYHAN, the minister of commerce invited the authorities of the country and the correspondents of the mass media on this occasion to witness the results of the Islamic revolution and its effects on domestic production for self-sufficiency and change with the participation of the other countries in the international trade fair of our country.

The eighth international exhibition of Tehran and the exhibition of inventions and innovations are held simultaneously. In the international exhibition of Tehran, 23 countries, including Turkey, Austria, West Germany, and Denmark, are participating.

Formation of a Research Group in the Exhibition

In order to be free of dependence in agriculture, a research and evaluation group was formed in the eighth international agricultural exhibition.

As the eighth international exhibition of Tehran was opened, Dr Karbasi, the head of the center for scientific documents and papers and agricultural research of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, told the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY in regards to the aims of this exhibition: The general aim in holding the eighth international exhibition of Tehran is in general to educate and raise the level of knowledge of the people and acquaint the domestic producers with the products and activities of domestic industries which are the result of the reconstruction of the country. He added: The familiarity of the people with the industries, inventions, and products of the participating countries, their familiarity with the agricultural

problems, especially of pastures and animal husbandry, encouraging those individuals who take steps in the areas of inventions and increasing agricultural production, and the exchange of views among experts and others involved in agriculture are among the other aims of this exhibition.

He added: In order to attain these goals, contrary to the previous years when everything was forgotten after the exhibition, this year, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has established a research and evaluation group made up of the representatives of all the affiliated agricultural organizations. One of the most important duties of this group is to study the items that are exhibited by foreign countries in order to make use of inventions and innovations or manufacture the equipment domestically whenever possible.

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CSO: 4640/3

NEW BANK, CUSTOMS FACILITIES EYED TO HELP INDUSTRIES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 31 Aug 82 pp 5, 19

[Excerpts] The problems of the nationalized industries in connection with banking affairs and customs were studied on the second day of the seminar for the study of industries. In this study, the authorities of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, the Organization of National Industries, and the Industries and Mines Bank spoke about the banking problems of the government and the nationalized industries and presented possible solutions for the banking and customs problems of the government, cooperative, and private sectors. The suggestions proposed to the seminar were geared to solving the banking and customs problems of the nationalized industries, eliminating the excessive bureaucracy in the banks and customs of the country, providing the necessary facilities in the banking system, and supporting the domestic industries in the face of the aggression of the imperialist economy. The representatives of the nationalized industries in the seminar also suggested that customs offices be established near the cities and industrial centers, such as the industrial city of Alborz, to eliminate the customs problems and that a service institute be established to help speed up the delivery of the correspondence and official documents of the customs office and prevent excessive bureaucracy.

The Present Problems of National Industries

Abolqasem Jamshidi, the deputy trade director of the Organization of National Industries of Iran, explained the present problems of the national industries, especially in connection with banking

and customs. In this connection, he said: "The problems of the industries under our supervision are of two kinds: First, the problems of before the revolution, which are more or less known to everyone, and second, the problems of after the revolution, which have been caused by the imposed war and the economic embargo. The economic embargo was one of the problems which harmed our industries more than ever before. And the strong dependence of our industries at the present time has brought about their lack of growth. In some of the industrial fields, we are as high as 90 percent dependent. Presently, the monetary restrictions are slowing down our movement towards industrial growth. The shortage of raw materials, as you know, is one of our most major problems. Under the present circumstances, the government is not able to seriously protect the domestic industries against competing imported goods. These problems together have caused stagnation in the production of some of our factories. Under the present circumstances, "Iran Docharkh" factory is about to shut down as a result of shortages of raw materials. The lack of government support for exporting industries is also another of our problems. The lack of clear tariffs for every item is another problem which must be discussed. Along with these problems, we must also refer to the banking and customs problems."

On the whole, one of the most important problems of the nationalized industries connected with the industrial and economic policies of the previous dependent regime is the single-product based economy, relying on oil alone. This problem has caused economic dependence and the inability of the industrial sector to provide for the real needs of the society. In the opinion of experts, as a result of the incorrect industrial policies of the previous regime, basic and vital economic sectors of the country did not grow in harmony with each other. In any case, the symptoms of the industrial policies of the previous regime, which were 100 percent dependent, have put pressure on the nationalized industries.

In the opinion of the commerce deputy director of the Organization of National Industries, the difficulties which were caused by the conditions after the revolution can be summarized as follows: The blocking of the monetary reserves of the country by world-devouring imperialism and its allies, which caused an increase in the price of the raw and secondary materials needed by the industries, resulting in the closure of some of the production institutions. The lack of necessary and sufficient currency to import goods and raw materials needed caused a reduction in the level of production. Lack of industrial

planning and the unclear economic and industrial policies are among the essential factors in the production stagnation in the nationalized industries sector. Under the present circumstances, there are no precise regulations for the selection and employment of individuals. Other existing problems in this nationalized industries sector include the problems concerning domestic transportation and bureaucracy in obtaining permits to import and release goods. The increase in the price of raw materials as a result of the entry of international middlemen, the accumulation of ships and trucks waiting to unload in the ports and customs of the country, and our not receiving goods as a result of the cheating middlemen in some cases are among the other problems cited by those involved in industrial affairs.

Solution to Banking and Customs Problems

Those involved in industrial affairs offer certain solutions to the customs and banking problems, especially in regards to the nationalized industries sector. These experts believe that providing the necessary facilities in the customs of the country for the officials and applicants of industries can solve a portion of the customs problems.

The support of the government for the domestic industries through such levers as rationing, commercial profits, and customs duties will bring about the economic goals of the government. Providing self-sufficiency in the customs of the country in regards to having all the necessary facilities for the release of goods, such as shelved warehouses with loading and unloading equipment, is another solution proposed by the experts to solve the customs problems.

The creation of customs near industrial cities such as the industrial city of Alborz will decrease the accumulation and delay of goods in the customs houses. This will also help speed up the delivery of raw materials to the factories.

The creation of a reliable and organized filing system in all the customs houses will provide more order in regards to the entry and release of goods.

The managers of the production units of the private sector also believe that to solve the customs problems, strengthening the export preservation and security cadre of the customs to protect perishable goods and protect goods and raw materials from fire is

necessary. Another suggestion offered by the private production units is that the customs provide centers for production and distribution with information concerning prices in order that the rates be established for the release of goods after the prices have been approved by these centers.

Also, concerning the solutions for the banking problems in the industrial sector, the managers of the production units say that in order to eliminate the problems involving the registration of the orders of every production unit, a central unit should be established in the Markazi Bank of Iran or the Ministry of Industries and the necessary information should be sent to this center from government organizations and centers concerning the prices and production and supply resources of the industrial units. In this center, the representatives of the Markazi Bank of Iran, the Ministry of Industries, the centers for production and distribution, and economic mobilization can take part and, given sufficient authority, offer their opinions in regards to currency allocation, kinds and conditions of pro forma [invoices], and requirements for reopening credit for every production unit. Another point raised by the experts is that the Industries and Mines Bank can, through expansive activity in industries, approve the necessary funds for the completion and development of government and private factories. Also, the Markazi Bank, in order to directly participate in industrial production, must study the actual needs in terms of credit and all of the various industrial sectors and through providing credit for production units, encourage and motivate industrial growth.

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IS : 4-10/2

EMPLOYMENT CHIEF GIVES VIEW ON PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 22 Aug 82 p 9

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister Jasebi, secretary general of the Organization for Administrative and Employment Affairs]

[Text] KEYHAN's economic correspondent interviewed the deputy prime minister and secretary general of the Organization for Administrative and Employment Affairs. Important points in the interview included the manner in which the Manpower Rehabilitation Boards are functioning and the existing difficulties in implementation, the fate of purged employees who have been determined to be innocent, bills being implemented by the State Administration Affairs Organization, and the employment classification plan.

The details of the interview follow:

KEYHAN: So far how successful have the Manpower Rehabilitation Boards been in government offices and subordinate institutions?

Answer: From the standpoint of organizing the boards, all the supreme boards supervising the ministries and government institutions have been formed. These boards are taking steps in relation to forming initial and revision boards. From the coordination angle, the boards have had success in issuing opinions in light of the joint sessions of supreme board representatives which are held regularly. The main indicator of this is that coordinated action has been taken. In any case we must wait until the future when, God willing, further results are gained.

KEYHAN: Do problems exist for the Manpower Rehabilitation Boards, and if so, how is the Organization for Administration and Employment Affairs meeting them?

Answer: One of the problems was that committed and qualified persons who were chosen usually are involved with execution work in their various responsibilities. In light of the importance of the responsibility for rehabilitation, it is hoped that the brothers might possibly reduce their other responsibilities. The education of special cadres has also possessed special importance. Perhaps we can compensate for this deficiency to a degree of repeated training, holding joint sessions and issuing directions. However,

the organization for administrative affairs does not have a role in this connection. Instead, in connection with Article Six of the Rehabilitation Law, the deputy prime minister's office is involved with rehabilitation. This job was assigned to me.

KEYHAN: Could you please give an explanation of the seminar recently held in holy Mashhad in connection with manpower rehabilitation, and explain its purpose?

Answer: The Mashhad seminar was organized, like seminars in other provinces, to coordinate Initial and Revision Manpower Rehabilitation Boards set up in that province, concerned authorities, and the governor-general. In this seminar questions raised were answered in addition to examining the rehabilitation law, and explaining the limits of the duties of the boards and authorities.

KEYHAN: How will the Organization for Administrative and Employment Affairs treat purged employees if they have been determined to be innocent by the rehabilitation boards? Will their wages be paid?

Answer: Again, the agent in this connection will be the relevant ministry's rehabilitation boards; they will be the instrument. Meaning that when the boards adjudge these persons innocent, relying on Note 2 of Article 57, of the Rehabilitation Law, those persons' reputations will be restored, their wages wasted by the law will be paid, and the necessary expenses will be provided by the concerned organ by means of cost-cutting.

KEYHAN: In light of high costs and inflation, will the Organization for State Administrative and Employment Affairs take steps towards improving the wages of government employees, or not?

Answer: As regards this topic, the organization now has a plan which is ready for submission to the cabinet. In the plan, while attention is given to supplying family expenses according to need, we attempt to make some of this assistance non-cash in order to prevent the generation of inflation. The plan foresees the government giving a lot of attention to cooperatives in order to supply goods needed by employees.

KEYHAN: Please name the bills being implemented by the organization for administrative affairs, and tell us what bills are now ready for submission to the cabinet and the Majlis.

Answer: Several bills are under implementation at the present time that have been submitted to the Majlis or are passing through the legal stages in the cabinet. The most important of these bills include the bill to pension off and retire government employees, the bill to take into account the non-governmental experience of government employees, the bill for martyrs and heroes of the Islamic revolution of Iran who have either attained the elevated state of martyrdom or have been or are being wounded in the path of the Islamic revolution and the preservation of its achievements, the bill for part-time women's employment, the bill for varying computation of employee wages, and the bill for employees ready for service.

KEYHAN: Will changes be made in connection with the plan for job, group and grade classification of government employees?

Answer: In regard to the state service bill, what is certain is that job classification will not exist in the form it has now. The present job classification system relies on education and specialization, while in the future current useful experience and efficiency will be important employment factors. The organization plans to give attention to the goals of substituting experience for diplomas to a reasonable degree and not relying solely on education in its future classification. In regards to changing employee groups and grades, I must point out that this matter depends greatly on the system of payment in the employee community. What is certain is that giving a grade solely for having previous service, as it is now given, will not take place. Prior services will be one of the formative factors in experience. Thus it is planned that instead of these two words the expression "prior experience" will be used. It is obvious that if such changes are accepted by the government and the Majlis, the present situation of employees will conform with new standards. Thus, at the same time new and useful methods are acquired, employees will lose none of their rights whatsoever.

KEYHAN: The organizational structure of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is now being studied by the Government Structure Study Staff of the organization for administrative affairs. What is the status of the study?

Answer: The staff first engaged in studying and learning about the current state, and then ascertained areas of disorganization, organizational difficulties, and interferences. It then specified a desirable state on the basis of this data, which was submitted to the cabinet last week, where it was discussed and studied. Discussion and study will continue in future sessions of the cabinet.

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CSO: 4640/467

ARAK GETTING NEW INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES

Railroad Car Factory

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 31 Aug 82 p 4

[Interview with Engr Ahmadzadeh, managing and executive director of the Railroad Car Factory of Arak (Park)]

[Text] A railroad freight car assembly line will start up in a preparatory way in the Pars Railroad Car Factory of Arak at the beginning of next year. The factory is reckoned as the largest in the Middle East. With the start up of the various sections of this mother factory, which is being implemented with 1.3 billion tumans credit from the state development budget, the railroad's needs in railroad car construction and car and locomotive repair will be supplied domestically, and we will be freed from dependency in the area of transporting our country's goods.

Engineer Ahmadzadeh, managing and executive director of the plan for the Pars Railroad Car Company of Arak, Engineer Mastur-'Eshq, a member of the board of directors and a representative of the Railroad of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Pars factory, and Engineer Assadi, a technical expert at the factory, took part in an interview with the Economic Service of IRNA's Arak Center. They answered questions concerning the purpose of founding the Pars Railroad Car Factory of Arak, activities already accomplished and plans under implementation, and the effect of the factory's start up on the country's economy in the transportation area.

Engineer Ahmadzadeh, managing and executive director of the plan for the Pars Railroad Car Factory of Arak, began by stating that 40 percent of the factory's shares belong to the Railroad of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the other 60 percent belong to the Ministry of Industries, and that the Organization for the Expansion and Rebuilding of Iranian Industries made the capital investment. He said: The Pars Railroad Car Factory of Arak is the largest railroad car construction plant being set up in the Middle East, and incorporates the most advanced technology. It has been planned so that when it goes into operation it will compete with the world's famous railroad car building factories from the standpoint of quality and standards. While explaining that the Pars Arak factory will have an annual production capacity of 1,000 railroad freight cars, and will also make basic repairs on 1,000 cars per

far, he said: According to the schedule of the plan, the factory's railroad car assembly line will start preliminary operation in the second quarter of 1983. During the first stage of operation we will try (to the greatest extent possible) to produce parts needed by the railroad that are now being imported. By gradual installation and start up of all the machinery for railroad car construction, we will begin with initial production of 300 units, and finally achieve total capacity, meaning the building of 1,000 car units per year.

He added: With this level of production, in addition to supplying the needs of the railroad, we will be able to build cars in the factory that are needed by our country's large companies, such as the Esfahan Steel Mill, the Sarcheshmeh Copper Mine, and others. These companies need freight cars to carry materials.

Concerning personnel needed by the Pars factory, Engineer Ahmadizadeh said: According to the prepared plan, this factory will eventually need 2,350 workers in various categories, technicians and design and production engineers. When the railroad car production line gets under way, 40 percent of this personnel will have been absorbed. The remaining labor force needed for activities in other factory sections will be employed in the locomotive repair and railroad car repair sections.

Then Engineer Mastur-'Eshq, member of the board of directors of the Pars Railroad Car Factory and representative of the Railroad of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the factory, stated that the government's policy was focused on expanding the railroad, and said: The Pars Railroad Car Factory, which has special economic importance for our country, will be able to nourish the Railroad of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the standpoint of constructing and repairing railroad cars during the next few years, and will bring the country to self-sufficiency in transportation.

He added: When the Pars factory goes into operation, and if the rail line is connected to Pandar Imam Khomeyni, we will gradually eliminate the need for trucks and trailers. Engineer Mastur-'Eshq added: The purpose of founding the Pars Railroad Car Factory is so that public transport relies on our country's production to the greatest extent possible. For the same reason the Railroad of the Islamic Republic of Iran has begun studies on setting up a locomotive-building factory. If state officials consider it beneficial, preparations will be made to construct this factory alongside the Pars Railroad Car Factory of Arak.

Engineer Assadi, Pars factory technical expert, while giving a short history of the founding of the Pars factory, said: The operations to build this factory's enclosure began 7 years ago under the supervision of an Austrian railroad car construction company named SJP. After the victory of the Islamic revolution, we dismissed the contractors building and setting up the factory who fled after running up millions of tumans in debts.

PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO IRANIAN WORKERS IN GULF COUNTRIES

from KEYHAN in Persian 7 Sep 82 p 18

[Interview with Mehdi Mo'infar, deputy minister of social affairs and manpower services, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs]

[Text] Mehdi Mo'infar, deputy minister of social affairs and manpower services of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, explained in detail the privileges the government has granted to Iranian workers in the Persian Gulf countries in an exclusive interview with the correspondent of the political service of KEYHAN. In this interview, Mo'infar referred to the importation into the country of food by such persons up to one million rials annually and said: "Concerning passports, military service, regulations for entry and exit, currency exchange, release of goods, and some other issues, decisions have been made in the interest of these workers who are generally from the oppressed and deprived classes of the society."

What you read below is the complete text of our correspondent's interview with Mr Mo'infar.

In the beginning, the deputy minister of labor said concerning the workers and those who hold jobs in Persian Gulf countries:

"The Iranian workers in the Persian Gulf countries, which, on the whole, includes all those who hold jobs in those countries, are from the deprived classes who have gone to those countries from various provinces of Iran, especially the deprived southern provinces. They are engaged in various economic and developmental activities in those countries. The number of these workers is large because the Persian Gulf countries are favorable places. We do not have any precise figures, but we know that a large number of our hardworking workers are employed in these

... As the past regime did not care about the improvement of the condition of the oppressed, naturally, it did not pay attention to the condition of this most oppressed and deprived class of our society who are working away from home. Unfortunately, it did not take any steps concerning the welfare or the improvement of the living conditions of these people nor did it help them to solve their difficulties. After the victory of the magnificent Islamic revolution, the goal of the Islamic revolution, as expressed by our great leader, has been to serve the oppressed of the society. Understanding, studying, and taking care of the conditions of these workers who are engaged in foreign countries has been one of the issues constantly on the minds of the authorities. Lack of correct understanding of the issue, many deficiencies, and the lack of the necessary coordination among the various concerned organizations did not, unfortunately, bring the results of the actions taken to a desirable level. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, which must support and defend the interests and welfare of all the workers, considers as one of its duties the supervision over the condition of the workers who are engaged abroad."

Step 1: Then

Mehdi Mo'infar then explained the steps taken in this area and said:

"About six or seven months ago, a letter in this connection was sent to our brother, Mr Tavakkoli, to all the ministers and authorities of the concerned organizations. Explaining the improper situation of the Iranian workers in the Persian Gulf countries, the letter asked that informed and fully authorized representatives be introduced to the Ministry of Labor in order to establish a permanent committee for examining, understanding, and studying the workers' situation. This committee held a regular session headed by the deputy minister of social affairs and employment services after the representatives were introduced. With the spirit of cooperation which existed among the members of the committee as well as the cooperation of the honorable representatives of the Majlis who represent these countries and also the labor representatives and the representatives of the imam in some of these countries, this committee succeeded to carry out a fundamental study of the issue and to take the urgent decisions to eliminate the problems and to prevent them. Several cases may have already been announced by the same organizations."

... concerning the problem of these workers, Mehdi Mo'infar, deputy minister of labor said:

... summarize the problems of these noble workers in a few ...

the problems concern currency exchange and sending money, military service, passports and residency, traveling back and forth, insurance, and the release of personal goods from customs. In regards to the currency problems of these workers and the concessions provided, we asked Mr Mo'infar for more details. He said: "As you know, the difference between the official rate and the free market rate is one of the problems of these dear workers in the Persian Gulf countries. The step that the Markazi Bank took in this regard was to purchase the currency of the workers with one currency ceiling at twice the official rate. The worker will give his money to the branches of Iranian banks in the Persian Gulf countries to be sent to his family in Iran in rials. In this case, the workers were confronted with two problems. Firstly, the money would reach their families late and secondly, despite the fact that the difference was paid by the government, this did not make up for the original difference and the profiteering money exchangers would use this difference in rate to exchange to buy the workers' currency in order to pay them in rials. In regards to the first problem, which is the length of time it took for the bank drafts to arrive, the Markazi bank is taking measures which it will soon officially announce."

Secondly, in regards to the second problem, the committee intended to make a very important decision which will protect the interests of both the workers and the government of the Islamic Republic by attracting currency as well as enabling the people to benefit fully from the labor of our workers.

The committee prepared a plan according to which every Iranian worker in the Persian Gulf countries can purchase up to one million rials in goods in accordance with a specified list to bring into Iran with customs concessions in order to sell them. This plan was slightly altered, approved by the Cabinet, and intended to be implemented.

On this approved list were announced previously by the radio and other newspapers. Here, I need to explain and make certain necessary suggestions to our dear workers which will be of great help.

First, the dear workers must know that without obtaining permits from the organizations, they will be able to import goods.

Second, the distribution of goods in the country will not be controlled by [the official] distribution channels. Third, goods will be released without the payment of additional interest. In other words, the additional interest, which is equal to the value of the items and is a significant amount, will be omitted from the list of export and import taxes for these items. It must be explained that customs duties and government taxes for various items exist. In the near future, the existing list along with the

determined government taxes will be announced to the workers so that they will be fully informed about the procedure for the release of goods.

Evaluation of the Price of Goods

Fourth, the amount of one million rials in the items is allowed in the Iranian ports. In other words the evaluation officials of the customs will calculate the purchase price and not the price of that item in Iran. Therefore, considering the difference in the existing rates of currency exchange, the value of one million rials for the cost of goods is a very high one, which will provide the workers with even more than the difference in the rate of exchange in the region.

The fifth point is that the duration of stay of the workers in the Persian Gulf countries must be clear. If they import an item which exceeds the amount of one million rials, they can import that item dependent upon the duration of their stay of, for instance, two or three years.

The sixth point concerns the brother officials of the customs and the brothers in the Guards Corps and gendarmerie who might deal on various occasions with the workers who benefit from these concessions. I request of these brothers to study this resolution personally and in accordance with the explanation given, provide the necessary resources at the disposal of the poor workers.

Mo'infar continued his explanations for the workers and he added that the goods imported by the workers must definitely be accompanied by bills of sale and transportation receipts and that the bills of sale should be real ones. The goods must also be sealed. The items, whenever possible, should be imported through Isfahar, Bandar 'Abbas, the Imam ports, or the customs of Isfahar or Shiraz airports.

In conclusion, Mo'infar added: Those who try to bring in smuggled goods for profiteering will be dealt with much more severely than in the past.

Resolution to the Problem of Military Service

The minister of labor then referred to another problem of the workers, the problem of military service, and said: In connection with military service, those who were born during the period from March 1958-20 March 1959 and before can receive their exemption without returning to Iran by going to the local consulates. Of course, Iranian workers and tradesmen who reside in the Persian Gulf countries and who come to visit their relatives must, when they return, pledge to serve in the reserves.

problems exist for which a plan has been presented to the Supreme Council of Defense in order to solve them. This plan will be implemented after it has been approved.

Concerning the passport problem, Mo'infar said: It has been determined that passports will be valid for two years instead of one. The agencies are authorized to renew the passports for a period of two years. As you know, the workers were able to enter Iran and stay for four months and leave without paying exit taxes. This period has been extended to six months.

In conclusion, Mo'infar said: We request the authorities and all those who deal with these problems in their jobs to refer known cases to the Ministry of Labor in order to enable the above-mentioned special committee to study and make decisions concerning them, which requires investigation and new regulations, and also in order that they may take steps regarding violations of the resolutions which have caused problems for workers.

END

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UNIVERSITIES REOPENING ONLY AFTER CORRECTIVE MEASURES

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

QOM - Ayatollah Montazeri the prominent jurispudent yesterday said that it would be preferable that universities are reopened only after corrective measures and major problems with regard of reorganization are attended to as it would be impossible to have all this done in haste.

Avatollah Montazeri was speaking to members of the Cultural Revolution Headquarters who called on him to present him with a report on the reopening of the universities, IRNA said yesterday.

The IRNA report said that the report listed the types of books that would be recommended for use in the universities.

The members of the Cultural Revolution Headquarters who were to see Avatollah Montazeri called on him to suggest the names of the clergymen who should take up the

task of "Advisor in Islamic Culture" in the universities when they were due to open in future.

However, Avatollah Montazeri in his guidelines cautioned against the opening of the universities without taking the necessary measures and planning ahead of their reopening of the universities without taking the necessary measures and planning ahead of their reopening.

He said that efforts should be made to attract faithful and committed professors both within and outside the country to the universities and advised the Cultural Revolution Headquarters to do so and advised on other steps for filling the need for specialized manpower within the country in order to achieve self-sufficiency in this sector.

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IRAN

GENDARMERIE CHIEF DETAILS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TOHFEH SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 6 Sep 82 p 11

The commander of the gendarmerie said: So far, 26 border stations have begun their work in the Province of Khuzestan and 100 border battalions will be established in nine areas of the country.

He also said: From 21 March to 22 August of the current year, the gendarmerie agents uncovered more than 3-5 tons of narcotics.

According to the report of the correspondent of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, Col 'Ali Kuchekzadeh, the commander of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a radio-television and press interview, spoke about the establishment of border battalions, the activities of the stations in the liberated areas, the work of the Hamzeh Seyyedolshohada headquarters, the fight against the counterrevolutionary minigroups in the north, and the discoveries of the gendarmerie in those first five months of the current year.

The commander of the gendarmerie first said in connection with the establishment of border battalions in the Sistan-Baluchestan and Korasan area: In order to tightly control the borders of the Islamic nation, we decided to establish border battalions with the cooperation of our brothers in the Guards Corps. In this connection, the plan for the establishment of these battalions was presented to the National Security Council and the Cabinet and was, fortunately, received very well by the responsible brothers. We hope that those battalions will begin their work soon in nine border areas of the country using the existing gendarmerie and Guards Corps brothers.

Colonel Kuchekzadeh then, in connection with the strengthening of the border stations and the strict control of the national borders, said: What is certain is that we are always trying to make the maximum use of the minimal resources in the strict control of our national borders. But it must be pointed out that this important task, which only involves the military and law

important aspect of the problem, cannot be accomplished unless it is coupled with economic and cultural aspects.

Another: As you know, in order to maintain an active station, we need roads, water, electricity, equipment, and other resources for living and working, which must be provided for the station itself. Considering these problems, we find that the military and law-enforcement aspect of border control is only one of the three dimensions--law enforcement, economic, and cultural--of the issue.

Another speaker said in connection with the work of the gendarmerie officials in fighting narcotics smuggling: The British regime always tried not to have strict control over the borders of the country in order for its masters to be able to fulfill their greedy, colonialist objectives. Hence, we see that large quantities of smuggled goods always entered the country.

After, since the victory of the Islamic revolution, the government of the Islamic Republic has always believed that the borders of the country are like a person's clothing, which must be protected from any kind of violation by foreign elements. But world-imperialism, which has always been the enemy of the Islamic revolution, has always tried and still tries in various ways to penetrate the borders of the Islamic nation. The import of 5.5 tons of narcotics during the first five months of the current year indicates that the colonial roots of the past still exist.

Then, another speaker then said, in connection with the guard stations which have been established in the liberated areas: In 1358, 16 border guard stations have been established in the province of Khuzestan and the combative battalion of the gendarmerie of Ardabil and Ilam have also begun their work.

Another member of the gendarmerie then spoke about the work of the gendarmerie headquarters and the cooperation of the gendarmerie with this headquarters, saying: With the efforts of the gendarmerie in the armed forces and in the Guards Corps, in order to confront the counterrevolutionary elements in the province of western Azerbaijan and Kurdistan, a headquarters of the "Islamic Revolutionary Headquarters" has been established. The officials of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic must cooperate with this headquarters. In addition, the brave fighters of the gendarmerie, along with the gendarmes in the Guards Corps and mobilization, are fighting against the armed elements affiliated with the counterrevolutionary groups around Miran-shahr-Erbil.

Another member of the gendarmerie added: With the efforts of the gendarmerie, the gendarmes who accepted the Islamic Revolution in the provinces of western Azerbaijan and

together, five battalions of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic military have been assigned to the gendarmerie to increase their power to fight the supporters of the heathen alliance.

Colonel Kuchekzadeh then said in connection with the fight against the counterrevolutionary minigroups hidden in the northern forests: The number of those in the minigroups, including the hypocrites, the Ashraf Dehqan minigroup, and the so-called Sarbedaran minigroup, presently hiding in the northern forests, might reach no more than 80 persons. Basically, it can be said that from a military standpoint, the actions of these minigroups are worthless and cause no problem for us.

The commander of the gendarmerie then said in connection with raising the guards stations of the country ideologically: In order to raise the quality of work in the guards stations of the country, we are training a series of faithful and committed personnel. In this connection, presently, 400 persons of the commissioned personnel of the gendarmerie are going through a one-year officer training course. More than 2,000 non-commissioned officers are also going through training in the gendarmerie training centers. These individuals were selected with the cooperation of the committed soldiers and will be going to the guards stations throughout the country so that, God willing, they will be able to put the guards stations more than ever before at the service of the deprived people of their areas and, consequently, the regime of the Islamic Republic.

Colonel Kuchekzadeh then said in connection with the living conditions of the gendarmerie personnel: During the Pahlavi regime, the gendarmerie was one of the most deprived and discriminated organizations. After the victory of the Islamic revolution, contrary to the fact that the authorities were always trying to discriminate this deprived organization, due to the special conditions of the revolution as well as the imposed war, the gendarmerie has not as yet been as strengthened and supported as other organizations of the regime of the Islamic Republic. However, we will rely with the grace of God and the efforts of the gendarmerie, we will be able to provide material and spiritual support for the near future for this hardworking, deprived stratum of the Islamic Republic army under the most severe conditions.

In the conclusion of this interview, Colonel Kuchekzadeh said: In order to eliminate the problems of the country, the political changes can be taken unless all the organizations are united and coordinated. Hence, the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic will always sought help from all the revolutionary organizations and will move along with them on the path of the Islamic revolution.

IRAN'S HISTORIC RELICS SAFE SAYS UNESCO

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Sep 82 p 2

[Text]

PARIS (IRNA) -- Iran is a country enjoying a rich culture and has preserved this valuable heritage from every point of view.

In a report submitted by the Director General of UNESCO, Ahmad Mokhtar, to the Executive Council of the organization, and other representatives including Islamic Republic of Iran, Mokhtar referred to the visit of three UNESCO missions of cultural properties to Iran.

The mission inspected historical monuments in Isfahan, Shiraz and Tehran, and also museums.

Their report indicated that the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has banned, through the setting up of regulations, exit of cultural properties of the country and illegal excavations of archeological works.

The Director General of UNESCO concluded that this report rejected all rumors and accusations by western media alleging Iran's sale and destruction of cultural properties in Iran.

CSO: 4600/9

IRAN'S NAVY UNITS TO ASSUME DUTIES IN ISLAMIC WATERS

IRAN TIMES in English 13 Sep 82 p 1

TEHRAN (IRNA) Deputy Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) Ali Shamkhani, said in an interview published yesterday that Iraq should be blamed for supplying explosive materials to terrorist organizations, which culminate in the maiming and murder of innocent civilians, such as the recent bomb explosion in southern Tehran.

He made this comment in an interview with the daily Ettela'at, adding that the bomb attacks had been aimed at alienating the people from the Islamic Revolution and its leader, Imam Khomeini.

"Just as the deposed shah took his ideas to the grave, Saddam, America and Rajavi (fugitive MKO leader) would take their ideas to the grave as well," Shamkhani said. He said that in the former regime the people faced guns and today they were facing bombs.

The deputy commander further said that during August the IRGC had discovered and defused more than five bombs, adding that the security forces would continue their operations against saboteurs.

Speaking about the activities of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards in the Navy and Air Force, Shamkhani said that in the very near future navy units of the IRGC would be present in the waters of the Islamic Republic. He added that the IRGC had begun to train its first naval battalion and would "react seriously" to any acts of aggression against Iranian waters by the Superpowers.

In relation to pilot training he said that some members of the IRGC had been trained to fly aircraft. Shamkhani further said that the IRGC would certainly expand its activities in this field.

RAMADAN STRESSES NEED FOR IMPROVED TRAINING

Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 7 Aug 82 p 6

[Text] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolutionary Command Council and commander-in-chief of the Popular Army, affirmed the importance of intensifying training programs and using the scheduled hours to improve the combat capabilities of the fighters.

While chairing a meeting of the Anbar zone command of the Popular Army, the supreme commander said continuous attention by officials to the fighters in the camps would strengthen the firm bonds between the fighters and the officials and provide the latter with a broad opportunity to acquaint themselves at first hand with everything relating to the fighters both during and after training. Continuous attention will eventually result in familiarity with what the training programs have accomplished and in knowledge of what the fighters gained from the programs through the practical application of what they learned in the training exercises.

Comrade Ramadan disclosed his instructions to the individuals responsible for training on the need to concentrate the hours scheduled for physical exercise within the daily training programs of the soldiers because of their importance in developing bodily strength to enable them to acquire proficiency in performing their duties in the desired way.

The chief of staff of the supreme command of the Popular Army, and Comrade Qasim Sharif, commander of the Anbar zone of the Popular Army, as well as a number of officials in the supreme command of the Popular Army were present at the meeting.

Comrade Ramadan also visited a combat training camp for officer candidates in Anbar province.

In the course of his inspection of the soldiers and their training in the use of different kinds of weapons and exercises in combat specialties, Ramadan asserted that familiarity with the technical aspects and characteristics of different kinds of weapons and a complete grasp of training methods by the soldiers is just as important as military discipline and obligations, for it enables them to fully perform their duties in preparation for their participation in Saddam's Qadisiya against the Iranian enemy.

Comrade Ramadan said the fighters among the officer candidates who enjoy high morale and demonstrated their devotion to duty and discipline in the camps and battlefields are part of the test of the Popular Army whose success was confirmed by the bloody fights of our just battle through their active participation with our comrades in arms among our brave forces by achieving and supporting our successive victories over the Iranian enemy.

He called on the officer candidates participating in the camps to assure the success of this pioneering test.

The commander-in-chief was accompanied by the chief of staff of the supreme command, and Comrade Qasim Sharif, commander of the Anbar zone of the People's Army, as well as a number of officials in the supreme command of the People's Army.

Comrade Ramadan, also chaired a meeting of the commanders of the Baghdad al-Karkh zone of the Popular Army.

The commander-in-chief of the Popular Army at the meeting at which Comrade Samir Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, member of the regional command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party was present, discussed ways of developing combat training programs and matters relating to formations of the Popular Army and their role in supporting mass mobilization and providing an opportunity for our compatriots to perform their role in our just battle against the Iranian enemy.

Also present at the meeting were the chief of staff, and a number of officials in the supreme command.

Ramadan said exposing soldiers during training to quasi-battlefield conditions is essential.

During his visit to a training camp in Baghdad where he learned about the soldiers' practical application of the information obtained during training and knowledge of weapons characteristics, Ramadan added that that constitutes a real test of the various capabilities of the soldiers and shows the extent to which they mastered what they learned in the camps.

Ramadan affirmed that thorough mastery of training programs and the characteristics of various weapons will enable the soldiers to perform their duties very well, improve their combat capabilities, and overcome any difficulties they might encounter in battle. He noted the importance of concentrating the exercises and practical applications after each stage of the training programs.

The chief of staff and a number of officials in the supreme command of the Popular Army participated in the visit.

5214

CSO: 4404/648

BRIEFS

IRAQI CONTRACTS WITH USSR--Moscow, 17 August--Iraq and the Soviet Union today signed a number of contracts calling for cooperation between the two parties in the oil industries and in setting up projects. The contracts were signed by 'Isam al-Jalabi, vice president of the Iraq National Oil Company, for Iraq and by Shikitov, head of the Soviet Technoexport Organization, for the Soviet Union. The contracts were signed within the framework of cooperation specified in the report of the Joint Soviet-Iraqi Committee. Marid Banov, vice chairman of the International Commission for External Relations of the Soviet Council of Ministers, met today with 'Isam al-Jalabi, vice president of the Iraq National Oil Company. During the meeting they discussed ways of developing projects that the Soviet party is to carry out in the country and of increasing cooperation in the oil industries in addition to cooperation between Soviet and Iraqi organizations in these industries. 'Isam al-Jalabi came to Moscow day before yesterday on a visit of several days to the Soviet Union. [Text] [Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 18 Aug 82 p 6] 5214

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ARENS MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE SHARON REPLACEMENT

TA011159 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 1 Oct 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Tuviya Mendelsson]

[Excerpt] In internal consultations held by the Likud the name of Israel's ambassador to the U.S. Moshe Arens was mentioned as a possible candidate for replacing Ari'el Sharon as minister of defense.

The consultations were held because of an evaluation that Sharon will have to resign his post regardless of the findings of the judicial inquiry commission, because of his shaken credibility in the eyes of senior IDF officers and his weakened position within the policy-making echelon in Jerusalem. Arens' name was also mentioned in the wake of the recent reports about contacts and talks conducted by 'Ezer Weizman with various political elements on the possibility of his return to the political scene.

Sources in Jerusalem believe that Prime Minister Menahem Begin will not seek Sharon's resignation before the judicial commission of inquiry publishes its findings and recommendations. It is worth mentioning however, that within the Likud as well there is an awareness of the distinction between the judicial aspect and the political one and of the fact that Sharon's standing as defense minister has to do with the latter aspect. The pronouncements made by senior officers in recent weeks and the concurrent deterioration of Sharon's standing within the government are indicative of the devaluation of his position and credibility, a devaluation that will make it necessary, according to political and party elements in the Likud for Sharon to resign his post sooner or later.

Along with mentioning Arens' name as a possible candidate for replacing Sharon, Shmu'el Tamir's name was raised as a candidate for taking Arens' place in Washington.

CSO: 4400/17

HAMMER'S STATEMENT DRAWS HEAVY CRITICISM

NRP Rightists Upset

TA031235 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Oct 82 p 3

[Report by Avi Bettelheim and Yosef Waxman]

[Excerpts] Rightist circles in the National Religious Party [NRP], mainly Gush Emunim members living in Judaea and Samaria, are bitter about Education Minister Zevulun Hammer's moderate statements on television last week. Mr Aharon Remez of the young faction--which is led by Hammer--wants to convoke the NRP center to discuss what he calls "the change in Zevulun Hammer's positions on the issue of the integrity of Eretz Yisra'el."

Members of the religious-communal settlement of Yaqir in Samaria yesterday asked Minister Hammer to cancel his visit to their settlement, scheduled for this Wednesday. On the same day, the education minister is supposed to tour nine settlements in Samaria.

The leader of the NRP and the chairman of the Lamifne faction, Dr Yosef Burg, said yesterday that "this affair was part of the internal democratic process within the NRP. Democracy is a precious and delicate tool which might become dangerous when in unskilled hands."

There are people in the NRP who see a link between Minister Hammer's moderate remarks and the internal elections in the party due to take place within a few months. It seems that the current unrest in the wake of Hammer's remarks is the first move in the internal elections war within the NRP. These would be the first elections the party has conducted in the last 9 years.

The nine Samaria settlements which the education minister is scheduled to visit this week have said that they were not notified about his arrival. Most settlements noted that although they would receive him they would also tell him what they think about his statements. "We will tell him politely but firmly. In our opinion, he is willing to forego principles he held in the past for the sake of acquiring the title of leader of the NRP after Dr Burg steps down from leadership," they said. The settlement members further noted that the last NRP members in the settlements would now leave the party. An NRP activist in one of the settlements personally phoned the education minister and informed him that he was quitting the NRP.

Reacting to this, associates of Minister Hammer and NRP leaders said last night that those meddling behind-the-scenes against Minister Hammer are a small group of Gush Emunim members.

'POST' Reports Reactions

TA041422 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Oct 82 p 3

[Report by political correspondent Sara Honig]

[Text] Tel Aviv--Education Minister Zvulun Hammer suffered several blows to his prestige yesterday from Gush Emunim, as a number of Judaea and Samaria settlements which he had planned to visit withdrew their invitations to him.

The rebuff to Hammer came after his statement in a television interview last week to the effect that his political thought is undergoing a change. The fact that he has in effect been declared persona non grata in a number of settlements is a serious setback to Hammer. He has long been considered their patron and the settlements were regarded as very much his home ground.

The first settlement to ask Hammer to stay away was Uqir, followed by Elon More and Qedummim. They all explained that they no longer trust Hammer and feel that the day may come when he might vote for their disbandment. Feeling against the minister has, in fact, been building up for some time, long before his latest television appearance and even before the evacuation of Yamit and the Sinai settlements.

Hammer was due to have visited several settlements on Wednesday, the main purpose of the tour being the dedication of a new synagogue in Shave Shomron. That settlement too has told Hammer that he is not welcome. An overwhelming majority of the settlers signed a petition telling Hammer they would prefer if he were not to come.

A number of other settlements on the National Religious Party [NRP] minister's itinerary have informed him that he will be received there, but can expect only "a cool, formal and correct reception."

Hebron Rabbi Moshe Levinger, one of the leading figures in Gush Emunim, has called on Hammer to resign "in view of his about-turn and treason to the idea of Eretz Yisra'el."

In an attempt to tone down his initial statement, Hammer sought to explain yesterday that he "did not betray Eretz Yisra'el. I did not say that I am no longer committed to its integrity and to settlement. I merely called for a change of emphasis by the NRP, in which the party would stress the spiritual revival of the Jewish people and a return to Jewish values and the roots of Judaism, through battling assimilation abroad and seeking to strengthen and deepen Jewish awareness at home. I am calling for the rebuilding of the Jewish nation. Is this treason to Eretz Yisra'el?" he asked.

In the NRP, it is said that Hammer's recent more dovish pronouncements are not really new and were made for three reasons:

--The NRP has become almost indistinguishable from the Likud and Tehiya, and both these parties have captured a large part of the NRP electorate. The current need, according to Hammer, is for the NRP to carve a definitive niche for itself in the political arena.

--The internal NRP elections are approaching and Hammer realizes that the land of Israel diehards, who had in past years constituted the mainstay of his support, have for the most part left the NRP. To succeed in the elections, he must now court other groups within the party.

--Some groups in the NRP claim that Hammer has, in part, also been influenced by the high casualty rate suffered in the war by Hesder Yeshiva soldiers, most of whom belong to the NRP's Bney 'Aqiva movement.

Hammer met with the secretariat of Shave Shomron last night to assure them that his commitment to the territorial integrity and the settlement of Eretz Yisra'el has not weakened. He asked that this message be relayed to the other settlements in the region.

Sources in the NRP predict that Hammer will now seek to "climb down" a bit from the "too dovish" label that was affixed to him following his TV appearance."

CSO: 4400/17

COMMENTATOR RUBINSTEIN ON PLO-PALESTINIAN EQUATION

TA011518 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 1 Oct 82 p 16

[Commentary by Dani Rubinstein: "PLO Equals the Palestinians"]

[Text] A straight line leads from the Israeli policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the war in Lebanon. "We are not fighting the Palestinian people, we are fighting the PLO," says Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, referring to the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to the Palestinian camps (or what remains of them) in Lebanon. The patent attempt to differentiate between the Palestinian people and the PLO is a relatively new component of official Israeli policy. There were years when the existence of a Palestinian people was completely denied (Golda Me'ir), and there were years when Moshe Dayan (according to his book) and Ari'el Sharon (according to Uri Averbach) wanted to meet with Yasir 'Arafat and recognize a representation of "PLO sympathizers" (so they called it at the start of the Begin government in 1977).

The war to the bitter end against the PLO has been going on already for more than a year in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and for 4 months in Lebanon. And one thing has been made sufficiently clear in these two wars: The Israeli strikes against the PLO have led to inflicting severe harm on a large Palestinian public, perhaps all of it. In other words: One cannot differentiate between the Palestinian people and the PLO. The PLO is not only a gang of terrorists who by threats have taken control of an entire innocent and wretched people, but embodies the true national aspirations of this people. The fact that these aspirations--as they appear, for example, in the Palestinian charter--cannot, of course, be accepted by any Israeli is a different matter. Israel must fight against this. However, the Israeli attempts to play innocent and say that we are only fighting against the PLO do not succeed, and apparently will not succeed either.

These attempts can be examined first of all in the West Bank. Prof Menahem Milson who has now resigned as head of the civilian administration, was the father of the idea to strike at every PLO phenomenon in the territories. In the days before Prof Milson (and mainly according to the conception of Moshe Dayan) the state of Israel tried to limit the struggle in the territories to a war against terrorism and sabotage. This is a rough formulation of the principles of Moshe Dayan, who advised: "Not to get under their skin." Since Dayan's time, of course, circumstances have changed, and at the end of 1981

when the civilian administration was established and the attempt began to eliminate the PLO's influence in the territories, it was necessary to act with a hard and repressive hand against almost all of the population. The results of this year show that it was the stormiest since 1967. Demonstrations and riots occurred and more Arab youths were killed than in previous years. During the year eight Arab mayors were dismissed who were lawfully-elected according to the previous Israel policy, which even prided itself on these mayors' not being dependent on the Israeli Government. This year the severest restrictions were imposed on the intelligentsia in the territories. Bi'r Zayt University was closed for 7 months. From time to time, Arab newspapers were banned from distribution in the West Bank, books were confiscated, and of course, lands were expropriated. There were many other such things.

In brief: The attempt to remove the PLO's influence turned into a struggle to subdue and get rid of the local leadership; a struggle to smash the intelligentsia, and its institutions; and a war against the few rights and little freedom of expression (as compared with Israel) that existed in the territories previously. The attempt to establish an alternative leadership and with power and money was futile from the start. This was not only because the PLO has more power and money, but mainly because the Arab inhabitants support what the PLO represents (Palestinian nationalism), and oppose what the area village leagues represent (collaboration with the occupier). If one is to judge by the recent statements by village leagues head Mustafa Dudin, the story of the new leadership in the territories is nearing its end with a joke: Dudin opposes the settlements, accepts the Reagan initiative and his positions are becoming increasingly like those of the PLO, against which he has to fight.

The principle of the war against the PLO--and not against all the Palestinians--ended in Lebanon in tragedy long before the massacre in the camps in Beirut. In 'Ayn al-Hulwah, (al-Bas), al-Rashidiyah, and al-Miyah Wa Miyah--all refugee camps in the south--the IDF destroyed not only the terrorists' homes, but almost completely wiped out the camps. In these camps, the IDF detained nearly all the men who did not flee, not just some terrorists. (The number of detainees according to Prime Minister Begin is about 9,000, to which must be added some 2,000 who were detained in Beirut. According to an announcement of the International Red Cross, more than 15,000 Palestinian men are missing from the camps.)

In Lebanon it has become clear that in order to eliminate the PLO, the entire Palestinian existence in that country must in fact be eliminated. This does not mean that thousands must be killed, but that it was necessary to get rid of the entire leadership, destroy most of the places of domiciles, stop the sources of income (that came from the PLO), and cut almost all the services (health, education, and others connected with the PLO). Thus, when the elimination of the terrorist establishment in Lebanon is discussed in the IDF and the defense establishment, one arrives at the destruction of the entire Palestinian population.

The PLO's influence and power in the West Bank is less than what it was in Lebanon, but in recent years they have increased (also with the help of Jordan and the joint PLO-Jordanian Committee). Today, to continue the policy of the struggle against the PLO in the territories, it will be necessary to increasingly

step up repression against the entire population. A considerable portion of the construction in the West Bank is aided by the PLO; factories and companies (such as the East Jerusalem Electric Company) enjoy PLO support; the educational institutions and universities, the hospitals and other services, all the municipalities (also the dismissed ones, which are operating half-clandestinely), all are connected to the PLO, enjoy its support, and are largely subject to its authority and believe in it. In order to fight the PLO, in the way introduced by the civilian administration, it will ultimately be necessary to subjugate the entire population of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. No distinction can be made between the PLO and the Palestinians in 1982.

CSO: 4400/17

RAKAH MOVES IN CURRENT SITUATION DISCUSSED

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Sep 82 p 21

[Article by Yosef Tzuriel: "Palestinian State in the Territories Is Far-Reaching Compromise; RAKAH Tires to Take Advantage of War, But Stand Is Yet to Be Defined; In Present War Steps Were Not Taken to Include Arabs in War Effort"]

[Text] RAKAH wants to take advantage of the war in Lebanon, as do other extremist groups in the Arab sector. RAKAH operates in the open, while the others work secretly. It seeks to regain the mandates it has lost in the last election. The Telem and Sons of the Village movements wish to continue their existence in the mosque yards, on campus and in youth clubs.

Three months after the outbreak of the war RAKAH has not been able to present a "party line" about the war. In the clubs of the party and on the pages of AL-ITTIHAD one may attack the Soviet Union's stand on the war, and certainly not doubt the effectiveness of the sophisticated weapons supplied by the Soviets to Syria.

The activities of RAKAH are not duplicated by the two extremist groups in the Arab community, made up mostly of educated young people and religious leaders. The latter do not have a Soviet orientation. They are not beholden to the Kremlin. They only have accounts to settle with Israel. They are engaged in heated arguments whether a Jewish state has a right to exist in the region. To them a Palestinian state in the territories is a far-reaching compromise in favor of Israel. They continue to adhere to the concept of a "secular democratic state" as preached by 'Arafat.

As in previous wars conducted by Israel against Arab states, this time again security agents have been prepared to keep law and order in the Arab community. Unlike in past wars, this time steps were not taken to include Israeli Arabs in the war effort. In the past thousands of Arabs from Nazareth, the Galilee and the Triangle helped out by giving money or blood. Some did volunteer work in hospitals. Others helped a kibbutz in their area. This time they were only asked to keep quiet, nothing more.

We are now told that any involvement of Arabs would have been problematic, since this was the first war Israel has conducted against the PLO that sees itself as the representative of the Palestinian people. This created for the first time since the founding of the state a conflict between Arab loyalty to Israel and to their own people.

Whatever little was done in this area has involved some Christian Arabs, some Bedouins in the Negev, and of course Druze. Those have had a running feud with the PLO and all it stands for. Their relations with the Muslim population demanded great caution, and so their participation was minimal. There were hardly any volunteers, and only a few contributed money.

Between RAKAH, Telem and the Sons of the Village on the one hand, and the Bedouins on the other, one finds the "silent majority" of Israeli Arabs who have provided the 63 percent of voters who last year voted for the Zionist parties. For 12 days the leaders of the majority kept silent. But after they were pressured to react to the war they stopped the anti-Israel propaganda, albeit not without adding some of their own criticism.

The compromise statement that emerged read: 'Concerned about the future of the peace in the region and the future relations between the Arab Palestinian people and the Israeli people, we strongly protest the war of extermination of the Government of Israel against the Lebanese people and the Palestinian people living in Lebanon...History has proved that the will and rights of people cannot be destroyed with military means...Only mutual respect and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the nations in the region will solve the problems and bring a just and lasting peace.'

Two weeks after this statement was published, another statement, signed by other leaders, known to be educated, moderate people, came out, saying: "We, sons of the Palestinian people, citizens of Israel, cannot keep quiet in the face of the war in Lebanon that claims the lives of all the people involved, including members of our beloved Lebanese people. We consider it our duty to raise our voice and call upon the Palestinian people and its leadership, as well as the Jewish people and its leadership, to stop the war and start negotiating on the basis of mutual respect and recognition of the national rights of the two nations. The Jewish people have a right to live in peace and security in its own land, and the Palestinian people have a right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state alongside Israel in which it may live in peace and security."

Beyond the fear, the confusion and the historical conflict Israeli Arabs have experienced in their relationship with Israel, there is the worry the war might have affected the delicate relations with the state. The prime minister's adviser for Arab affairs, Binyamin Gur Aryeh, believes that the war against the PLO may strengthen those Israeli Arabs who have been cautious until now.

This possibility is predicated on extending help to those people, not only promises. Offering them some marginal jobs will not suffice. A far-reaching plan is needed to integrate educated young Arabs in the political system and in public life.

BATTLES WITH SYRIANS ON DAMASCUS ROAD IN LEBANON DISCUSSED

Tel Aviv BAMAHAHE in Hebrew 7 Jul 82 pp 41-43

[Article by Emanuel Rosen: "Face to Face with the Syrians"]

[Text] The Beirut-Damascus road. The second story of a house still under construction serves as the office of the formation commander. It is now already possible to recapitulate, to learn the first lessons. To move the finger over the map and to remember the bitter battle in 'Ayn Zahalta, to tell about the advance and numerous fierce battles for the Beirut-Damascus road, and to repeat with pride the fact which has already become history: we, the men of the formation, were the first to reach the Beirut-Damascus road at the end of a hard fight in which the Syrians were forced to flee and give up such an important route.

"There were two characteristics," says Col D, "to the formation's fighting in the Peace for Galilee war. Firstly, the routes over which the tanks moved were uniquely hilly, steep, and dangerous. These were routes which required us to move in convoys at night and permitted us only infrequently to fight armor battles in which all the tanks go into action while deployed in a horizontal spread formation. Secondly, the fighting against the Syrian commandos. Actually, this formation did not encounter the terrorists at all. From the third day of the war until the Beirut-Damascus road, the Syrian commandos accompanied us everywhere we went while waiting for us on the routes leading to the Beirut-Damascus road and fighting courageous suicide battles which caused us many casualties."

The formation, comprising integrated forces of armor and infantry and given close support by the artillery and the air force, will destroy in this war tens of Syrian tanks and kill hundreds of commandos. During the fighting there will be brigade-level attacks integrated with the face-to-face battles of the infantry and the tank-against-tank battles of the armor. "At times," says D, "We did not understand where we got the strength for all of this. We were constantly fighting."

There are those in the formation who tend to begin the story of the war on Tuesday, the day on which one of the most bitter battles in the entire war was fought, the battle for the village of 'Ayn Zhalta. But even before

this the soldiers and the commanders had their baptism of fire. Already at the time of the border crossing, the commanders were reporting that the original route along which they were to move was blocked and that they had to move westward toward the 'Aqiya bridge and 'Arab Salim. It was already clear to all of them that the difficult routes would require movement by column in which the tanks would move with one following the other. The battalion of Maj 'Ami was in the lead, and so it was virtually the entire war. This fate would provide the battalion with fierce battles at extremely close range. Twice 'Ami's tanks would fall into difficult ambushes which would require extrication operations and daring and dangerous evacuation of casualties.

The first village which the formation sought to occupy was Jarju', about 30 km northwest of Metulla. The force was led by an infantry unit of Nahal troops. These troops, who in quiet times are given the very unflattering nickname of "tour contractors" and who are generally satisfied with current security and line maintenance actions, would lead the formation along the entire way and because of this would become involved in the battles in which the highest level of infantry skill would be required. One of their commanders, originally a paratrooper, would say at the end of the war: "Despite the fact that one cannot compare the training given to the paratroopers and the Golani with that given to Nahal, these troops fought like infantrymen in every respect without anyone being able to tell the difference. My only explanation for this is their high motivation and the togetherness which apparently exists in such a force only among the Nahals."

Already on the way to Jarju' the advance element ran into an RPG ambush. The troops returned the fire along the sides and a force under the command of the executive officer went out to screen the houses from which it was felt the fire had come. Captain Yoram, the commander of B Company relates: "We noticed on the road several cases of Saggars and approached to examine them. During the examination there was directed fire at us. The tanks were cut off from the APC's. The executive officer took several soldiers and began to move in the estimated direction of the firing." The executive officer relates: "We went to the houses, but when we got there it became clear to us that no one was there and that the firing came from the woods and terraces to the left. The operations officer shouted to me from above that a large number of terrorists were there. We tried to join up with him but every time he called to us they threw a grenade at him. I approached the place and suddenly there stood up in front of me from a distance of 8 meters a soldier in a smooth khaki uniform, well camouflaged with a personal weapon and a steel helmet. He did not look like a terrorist, and I was certain he was one of ours. I waited a second and then this "soldier" opened fire and wounded one of the officers next to me. I rolled to the side and then he began to throw grenades at us."

The solution to this dangerous problem would eventually come from an unexpected direction, from the direction of Fili. Fili is a smiling red-haired squad leader who lives in Qiryat Motzkin and is a member of the Leshem settlement nucleus designated to join the kibbutz of Netiv Halamed He. He relates: "We were on the road above when this terrorist began to lay down a very intense fire toward us. We fell flat on the road and began to throw numerous grenades

below. I remember that I was lying next to the commander and throwing grenades and all the time I was racking my brains: How is it that he is not silenced? How is it that he continues to fire? Suddenly it seemed to me that I heard the cocking of a rifle. I stopped throwing grenades for a moment, crept forward a little, looked below the terrace, and suddenly felt my heart leap: this terrorist was actually lying below us, on the terrace below us, and all the grenades that we threw passed over his head. We could have continued to throw grenades at him until the next day. I requested the commander's permission to go down to him, and he approved. I threw myself down onto the terrace just below so that I was actually lying above the terrorist. I easily saw the bastard lying with his Kalashnikov and RPG and firing like crazy. I crawled backward a little, extended the end of the barrel over the terrace and fired several bursts. Suddenly he was silent. I looked again and saw that I had succeeded in killing him."

Fili's first reaction was shock. "I thought...I killed a man, even if he was a terrorist. I could not accept this easily...you understand, in combat you do not think about this, but later...you murdered a man, and that causes you to have a plethora of thoughts."

On the way to 'Ayn Zhalta another ambush was waiting for the force. On Tuesday morning the formation was making its way toward the Basra bridges. On the radio they were already telling about experiences and combat stories. The rapid movement and the success until that day created a feeling that everything was going well. "I remember," says Lt 'Ilan, the operations officer of one of the armored battalions, "that there was good morale. The commander was talking on the communications net about the magnificent landscape, and this was indeed a beautiful sight. We began to climb upward, and suddenly we heard on the radio different words. It became clear that 'Ami's battalion had run into an ambush of Saggars." The first acquaintance with the "awesome missile" passes peacefully: four missiles pass near the tanks and land behind them. Another battalion moves along a more western route and on the way catches terrorists "with their pants down." Lt 'Ilan relates: "We destroyed their trucks and APC's. I remember their mass flight. We were all elated, and joyful shouts of success were already being heard on the radio."

Not a Simple Story

But then we come to the 2 and 1/2 damn days of 'Ayn Zhalta, Col D relates: "We moved into the village where there were at least two Syrian battalions: a commando battalion and an armored battalion. They were organized and deployed like an army in every respect. They had modern uniforms and equipment, RPG's, Saggars, machine guns, tanks, and a massive amount of ammunition. They apparently knew that we intended to go through the village toward the Beirut-Damascus road, and I estimate that they had preceded us into the village a very short time before. I remember that we ran toward the bridge with 'Ami's tanks in the lead, and suddenly we began to receive fire from every possible direction. It took us time, but eventually we understood that we were surrounded and that 'Ayn Zhalta was actually a fortified and organized Syrian area." Maj 'Ami's unit was in the lead. The first tank was hit and

the rest were trapped in the area. It is impossible to approach an inferno. The platoon commander's tank overturned. In the third tank was a young tank commander, Eli Zazon, whom everyone in the battalion calls Zazi. He is now hospitalized in the Rambam Hospital as a result of being hit in the eye by an RPG fragment in the third week of the war. However even before that, on that Tuesday of the battle for 'Ayn Zhalta, Zazi performed what is called in the jargon of the albums of war an act of heroism. "It was 1 am. We were two tanks; mine and that of the platoon commander, Uriah Bar-Shalom, of blessed memory. Behind us were moving four APC's of Nahal troops. We began to descend toward the bridge, and suddenly Uriah detected a tank which stood hidden at a range of less than 100 meters. He destroyed it, and we began to pull back. During the pullback I detected to my right a tank in a trench. It was so well camouflaged that before that, in the movement toward the bridge, I did not even notice that I was going by it. Now it was in a range of -0 from me. I leveled my gun at him without aiming and without measuring and fired a shell. I believe that the crew of this tank was sleeping. In any event, immediately after I fired I heard shouting and the tank was burning."

Zazi turned aside to calm down but not for long. Nearby he noticed the platoon commander's tank overturned in a wadi. On the radio he is informed that the crew cannot find their commander. Afterwards it is learned that when the tank overturned 2nd Lt Uriah was killed. Now Zazi was alone, a single tank in the darkness in the heart of a dangerous Syrian area. He approaches the bridge, moves to a firing position, and sees two more Syrian tanks at a range of 400. Even before the Syrians understood what was happening, the tanks along with a nearby APC of commando troops were destroyed. "I was very afraid that they would see me at the time that I was firing and return the fire. I waited all the time for a hit, but it did not come," relates Zazi. With four tanks and an APC to his credit, Zazi descends from the bridge and on the way back destroys another tank.. Afterwards he turns aside to extricate the crew of the platoon commander's tank. "Listen," he concludes, "at the conclusion the guys in the battalion were very enthusiastic about this operation, and even the battalion commander was satisfied. It is not an easy thing to destroy five tanks when you are alone."

Zazi's force's fighting continued for 1/2 hour. At the same time, the Nahal APC's were engaged in their own combat. The commander of one of the companies, Capt Yoram, relates: "Even before the encounter we managed to stop a vehicle with four men. One of them had a Kalashnikov concealed alongside him. We began to interrogate them, and suddenly we heard that the two tanks in front of us had encountered Syrian tanks, and a battle began at extremely close range. We began to pull back when suddenly I felt a severe jolt and saw that we were all overturned. My APC overturned, but no one was hurt. We climbed out, and I got into another APC in order to continue to command the fellows."

D decides to move the Nahal force down toward the bridge in order to see what was happening there and to try to extricate the two trapped tanks. Yoram: "As soon as we got to the bridge and passed the burning tanks which lit up the area for us, we came under intense fire and had to pull back quickly."

D: "I then understood that it is not a simple story of breaking through and overrunning the area. The Syrians were well entrenched there, very strong, and we had to rethink the situation. I have never abandoned a unit which I commanded, but that night I had to leave them and go back to consult with my commanders. At 3:30 am I left them with a heavy heart."

When D returns from the consultations after several hours, he is stunned. "I found that our unit was being attacked by Syrians with RPG's and Sappers and that there was a hasty, disorganized retreat."

In the morning the battle for the extrication of the casualties begins. This is the story of the Nahal force which tried to extricate the wounded from the trapped tank while the Syrians were firing at this tank from every side. "This was not a simple extrication in which you have to pull the wounded back and conceal yourself," explains D, "here were acts of heroism of men who climbed up on the tank which was being fired at from every side. They tried to enter through the turret and extricate the wounded. The Syrians fired there like crazy, and we did not manage to locate precisely where they were firing from."

Second Lt Oren, a platoon commander, participates in the extrication of the casualties during which he loses his hearing in one ear. Today Oren has returned to full duty in the unit. He relates: "It was Wednesday 4 am. Maj 'Ami, the tank battalion commander, approached me and asked if we could extricate the casualties in his tank which was hit at night. Of course, I answered in the affirmative. I took with me Yiga'el the medic, Gideon, Dani, and several other soldiers, and we moved toward the tank under constant fire. It was actually a catastrophe. Yiga'el reached the tank, jumped inside, stuck out his head, and shouted to me: 'There is a wounded man here!' We called for Barak. He began to climb up on the tank, and at that very second this tank was hit with another RPG. Yiga'el jumped inside, and later we found that he had been killed. I was hurled backward and lost consciousness for several seconds. When I regained consciousness I saw Barak next to me with his face covered with blood, and then I also understood that something was wrong with my hearing. They were firing at us like crazy, and I had to recover quickly. We pulled back, reached the woods, which was then a kind of regrouping area, and then my company commander, Kali, arrived with several other soldiers. I told him that it was not worth it to return there because it was very dangerous, but he insisted that we have to extricate the wounded. This was most important to him. We went with him and we noticed a house on the right from which Kali thought that they were firing at us. He reached the house, but there was no one there. Afterward, he went over to its second corner, and then there was suddenly a long burst of fire from the opposite terrace. Kali shouted to everyone: 'Go back!' But a second later another burst was fired and hit Kali and the two soldiers who were with him. We later found out that all three were killed."

It is not difficult for Oren to reconstruct his feelings in those minutes: "In the first stage while I was going with Yiga'el and Dani toward the tank, I was very quiet. Afterward, in the second extrication attempt with Kali, I

had difficulty in hearing and I was a little out of it. They were firing at us from 4 meters, and the soldiers were very afraid. Some of them began to shout: 'They have surrounded us! They have surrounded us!' They saw their friends wounded and killed, and there was a problem. We continued to fight from corner to corner with the officers going first. It is for that reason that so many of the cadre were killed there. And it seems that all of them were killed there in attempts to extricate the casualties, and this seems to me to be justified even today. They train us for this. It is clear to me that if we the officers did not go first, no one would move. I remember what happened when I recovered from my short period of unconsciousness. All of them were standing at the side and waiting to see what Oren would say and do. You understand, we were all afraid. The men, including me, went to die there because of social pressure and because of the insignia of rank on the shoulder. This is the only explanation for the fact that I went on the extrication mission a second time. This is the only reason that I got up and ran there first. We knew that we were ready to be killed for this, and it was clear to me that I could not have thought otherwise."

Every Moment Was the Same

During this stage, after the second extrication attempt, the executive of Kali of blessed memory, Lt Karmel, arrived. He takes command of the battered company and reaches the wounded scattered in the area by their shouts. It was impossible to approach the house where Kali and the two soldiers were lying and the tank where Yiga'el was. Karmel does not know that D had sent to the place a company from the infantry battalion of the reservist paratroopers and that in this extrication attempt, the third one, one of the officers was killed. He requests D to try and continue the extrication. He also does not know that during that entire time Kali and Yiga'el were no longer alive.

D relates: "The troops put legitimate pressure on me, but after the third extrication attempt failed, I decided to give up. I decided that we would reorganize as required, that we would carry out an organized attack on this area, and only after that would we go and extricate the casualties. We had spent 1/2 day in extrication attempts under intense Syrian fire. During this time we destroyed 10 of their tanks. I said to the Nahal troops that it was more important to save a life than to endanger oneself in the extrication of the dead. I was the top rank in the force and I made this difficult decision in light of my firsthand impression. A serious depression remained, and it was good that this was so. This was a difficult decision, a commander's cruel struggle.

After the fighting D would talk with his troops and explain the significance of his decision. "I was sure," he would say to them, "that Kali was killed instantly. I say to you, and I also said this to his parents, that if he had been wounded and died because we had not succeeded in extricating him, then I beg his forgiveness."

Thursday morning. The attack begins. The infantry makes a deep flanking attack of 3 hours and climbs the hills overlooking 'Ayn Zhalta. "Although this flanking attack," says D, "took much time, every moment was the same."

The tanks fire at a Syrian armored vehicle, and within 1/2 hour 10 more Syrian tanks are destroyed. The artillery and air force provide massive support in breaking the Syrians. The infantry troops scour the village itself and engage in face-to-face combat with the Syrian commandos. The tanks are set on fire one after the other. After 3 hours of intense fighting, 'Ayn Zhalta falls. A Syrian armored battalion goes up in flames. Tens of Syrian commandos flee.

During this entire time the formation was fighting with a coordinated attack of infantry and armor. The company and battalion commanders descend from the tanks with radios and wage the battle while moving on foot. Maj 'Ami says: "This cooperation was one of the most beautiful things in this bitter war. We fought on foot alongside the infantry, and to this day because of this we are suffering from muscle contractions. We went in order to feel out the area. We went since the tanks cannot go everywhere. I would say that a true dependence and friendship was created between us. When one of the reservist infantry battalions was released, I came to its commander and said: 'I now feel much less secure now that you are leaving here.'"

About the Syrians who fought at 'Ayn Zhalta, 'Ami says: "We discovered excellent soldiers there who do not flee but fight. We saw that they do not leave their casualties behind, they do not pillage and do not take booty. They are very courageous, very technical and have good capability and much equipment. They are prepared for every kind of fighting--they had civilian clothes, training suits, athletic shoes, and bathing suits. They were shaven and well-groomed."

Sam, the commander of Company A, tells about the Nahal force: "It was clear to us that we had to reach the bridge of 'Ayn Zhalta. This was a difficult battle--in 5 hours we had only advanced 400 meters! Night fell but it was clear to us that we had to reach the bridge come what may."

On Friday 'Ayn Zhalta was in the hands of the formation. After several more hours of fighting the Syrians in the hills, a cease-fire was declared. The advance to the Beirut-Damascus road was stopped, and it would be resumed a week later, once again on Sunday.

5830

CSO: 4423/203

ELECTRONIC MEDIA BANNED FROM COVERING MASSACRE

TA011620 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Oct 82 p 3

[Report by Lily Galili]

[Text] The television and radio will be banned from covering any issue related to the massacre in Sabra and Shatila from the moment the government gazette publishes an announcement on the establishment of a commission of inquiry by the president of the Supreme Court.

A directive in this spirit was transferred yesterday by television Director Tuvya Sa'ar to the employees of the news department following a debate on the issue conducted between the broadcasting authority executive and its legal counsellor, Natan Kohen.

Kohen told me yesterday that according to the amendment introduced in 1979 to the law on inquiry commissions, all the sub judice rules prohibiting publication that could affect the process of the commission's work will apply. He further clarified that what is permissible and what is not in reportage on the radio and television will be determined by the subjects the commission will deal with according to its letter of appointment. These will only be discovered when it is set up. He noted, furthermore, that one could safely assume that most of the commission's sessions will be held behind closed doors, and among other things it will be forbidden to interview people who would testify before it, or broadcast any other material related to the massacre in the refugee camps.

In reply to my question, the legal adviser added that the demonstrations about this will similarly not be covered, and it was not clear whether the media would be allowed to cover Knesset debates on this. If doubts arise on what is allowed in the coverage, the legal adviser will transfer discussion and a decision on this to the cabinet.

Senior broadcasting authority elements emphasized yesterday that the interpretation of the law is something which will be hard to live with. The problem will be to define what is under the sub judice heading, since it does not make sense for all broadcasts on this subject to stop. They want the decisions to be on an "ad hoc" basis.

CSO: 4400/17

FAILURE OF ARAB EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM DISCUSSED

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 13 Sep 82 p 7

[Article by Muhammad Sharif Khaliliyah: "Success and Failure of Arab Educational System"]

[Text] Some 200,000 students participated this year in the educational program of the Arab educational system. Arab students today form one-third of the Arab population in Israel.

In the first year of the system, that is, the 1948-49 school year, the number of Arab students from kindergarten through high school reached 11,129 or 7 percent of the total Arab population of 156,000. During the 1959-60 school year the number quadrupled and reached 46,254, or 20 percent of the total Arab population of 230,000. In 10 years the number grew to 110,537, or 25 percent of the Arab population in 1969-70 of 440,000. This year there are 200,000 students out of an Arab population of 600,000 Israeli citizens.

Today nearly all Arab boys and girls of school age attend school, in every village and town, from the Galilee in the north to the Bedouin tents in the south.

Building Shortage

Nevertheless, Arab schools still suffer from an acute shortage of facilities. Arab officials report a shortage of over 3000 classrooms, while Ministry of Education officials put the number at 1200. Education Minister Zevulun Hammer says that his office has decided to gradually solve the space problem during the current schoolyear. The Arab Education Division head, 'Imanuel Kplowitz, admitted to me that the facilities built during the past 2 years only accommodate the new students without closing the growing gap between the Jewish and Arab educational systems. Kplowitz pointed out that 120 classrooms were added this year, with 110 being added later on, and 140 more being planned. But in order to close the gap, 200 rooms per year should be built over the next 10 years. In the meantime, entire schools in villages are housed in rented quarters, under subhuman conditions. Nazareth has 200 rented rooms; Um Al Fahm 75; 'Araba 26, and the list goes on.

New Curricula

The director of the Arab division says his office is preparing new curricula. This year two subjects were revised--history and Arab literature. A three-year teacher training program was initiated for special education and music.

The deputy director of the Arab division, 'Ali (Taydar), says that new teachers have been added to high schools faculties. Despite the revised curricula, the expectations of Arab education are still far from being satisfied. Textbooks are antiquated and outdated. While the school year goes into its third week, it is still hard to find all the necessary textbooks, especially for junior high and high school students. This problem recurs every year and no solution has been found. Some accuse the publishers and distributors, who make deals to increase their profit. If this is true, the Minister of Education ought to look into the matter and protect the interests of the students, especially since all those who write textbooks are also ministry inspectors.

Vocational High Schools.

If great progress has been made in the general educational system, despite the wide gap, in vocational education the gap between Jews and Arabs is enormous. The rate of Arab students in vocational schools 34 years after the establishment of the state is 15 percent, compared to 55 percent Jewish students. The officials in charge of vocational education in the ministry have set a goal of doubling the number of Arab students in vocational schools during the next 5 years. The question, however, is how are they going to accomplish it.

In the early years of the state the parents were not aware of the importance of providing a trade for their children, but today they are aware and interested. The Arab educators, however, were not prepared to absorb the hundreds and thousands of students who have sought vocational in place of general education.

This is why the

Arab system today lacks facilities for vocational education. During the past 2 years efforts have been made to integrate general and vocational schools and such subjects as electronics, computers, mechanics, home economics and nursing were added to the general program. But the ministry has to make an effort to add facilities for vocational education and prepare vocational teachers.

Parents today are striving more than ever before to send their children to vocational schools, and the ministry ought to influence the heads of the local authorities to spend more time and money in that area. With the proper treatment it will be possible to double the number of students in the vocational schools.

BRIEFS

SHAMIR MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS--New York--Thailand has decided not to allow the PLO to open an office in its territory--said the Thai foreign minister in a meeting with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in New York. The Thai minister said that his country was aware of the dangers such a move would entail and did not want to be dragged into unnecessary complications. The meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and Burmese Foreign Minister U Chit Hlaing indicates a change compared with previous years when Asian ministers refused to meet Israeli officials, including the Israeli foreign minister during UN General Assembly sessions. The Foreign Ministry attaches importance to the resumption of this dialogue, even if it applies to two Asian countries with which we maintain diplomatic relations. The Middle East conflict and the war in Lebanon stood out prominently in both meetings. The Burmese minister did not voice his opinion about the situation while the Thai minister said his country was in favor of a moderate policy and that is why Thailand was opposed to the Israeli invasion into Lebanon. Nevertheless, at the end of the meeting the Thai minister expressed his appreciation of Israel's determination and courage. The Burmese minister seized the occasion of the meeting to thank Israel for the technological aid and know-how it extends to his country. [Text] [TA071121 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Oct 82 p 3]

ARAB BIRTHRATE--Nazareth--The Israeli Arab birthrate has dropped since 1970, but it is now double that of the Jewish rate. Last year, the Israeli Arab birthrate was 2.7 per 1,000 compared to 4.0 per 1,000 in 1970. Figures just published by the Central Bureau of Statistics show that the Israeli Arab population (without east Jerusalem Arabs and the Golan Druze)--is 592,000 and makes up 15 percent of all Israelis. [TA011742 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Oct 82 p 3]

OIL PRODUCING WELL--The Zuq Tamrur 1 oil well near 'Arad started producing 100 barrels of pure oil yesterday, following the installation of a pump at the site on the last week of September. [TA011742 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Oct 82 p 2]

NEW WEST BANK SETTLEMENT--On Giv'at Haradar, north of Ma'ale Hahamisha, a group of regular army soldiers and members of the Judaea and Samaria government are going to set up a settlement tonight. Our correspondent Shalom Oren says that the Defense Ministry had promised them the site, whereas the Housing Ministry had promised it to another settlement group. Because of the dispute, no development work was carried out on the site. Our correspondent has learned that the Agriculture Ministry has promised the members of the group settling tonight that it would carry out the infrastructure work and build a road to the site. Presently in the group are some 20 families. [Text] [TA052031 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 5 Oct 82]

INTERCULTURAL MEETINGS--The Ministry of Education and Culture has decided to encourage schools to arrange meetings between Arab and Jewish students as part of a school program initiated last year. Eliezer Shmueli, the ministry director general, has sent schools guidelines for this program. Shmueli points out that the ministry has decided to encourage such meetings in order to help students get acquainted with members of the other group. The ministry considers this activity an important part of social development at all ages, especially adolescents. The ministry is seeking to prepare the students for these meetings through prior discussion and study. It was further pointed out that a series of meetings, rather than one-time, is encouraged. The ministry has appointed Gershon Baskin, a staff member of the Arab division of the ministry as the coordinator of the program. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Sep 82 p 3] 9565

FIRST ARAB WOMAN JUDGE--Iman Nasir-al-Din, an elegant, attractive, 24-year-old woman, was appointed judge by Prof Menahem Milson, head of the civilian administration in the territories, 2 days ago, and today presided in court. She is not only the first woman judge in the history of Judea and Samaria, but also the youngest judge in Israel. Nasir-al-Din, single, graduate of the University of Damascus law school, has worked for the law firm of 'Isam al-'Anani in East Jerusalem. "I am happy," says the judge, "not only because I am the youngest judge, but also because of the great challenge I am facing. Arab society is used to seeing women as teachers and secretaries. This is the first time they are going to see a woman judge. I am of course concerned about difficulties, but I am sure I will be able to overcome them." On her first day in the magistrate's court in Hebron the judge heard a case of a landlord and his tenant. "Hebron's population is mostly religious," she says, "and I have been concerned about a hostile attitude. I was surprised to find out I was treated with respect." Nasir-al-Din says she has yet to meet the Israeli judges. But she has heard from various sources, including Jewish and Arab lawyers, that justice in Israel "is on a very high level." [Text] [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 9 Sep 82 p 4] 9565

CSO: 4423/5

ECONOMIC GROWTH, PROGRESS IN NON-PETROLEUM SECTOR EXAMINED

Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 9, 16, 23 Jul 82

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd Naji: "Reviewing the Kuwaiti Economy"]

[9 Jul 82 p 4]

[Text] The decrease in the contribution [to the Kuwaiti economy] made by the petroleum sector, and the increase in the contribution made by the other sectors, is a phenomenon which is positive for the future.

The GNP is the living expression of the status of the principal economic sectors and their degree of activity in a nation. It is the objective formula which expresses the dynamic nature of a national economy, how active its sectors are, and the harmonization of the principal economic sectors with social indicators in accordance with the economic policy set by the government as an expression of its philosophy in administering a society's activities--the most prominent of which are economic activities.

Although the GNP reflects the overall picture of economic sectors and activities engaged in by individuals, it is governed by economic and human resources, natural limitations, and what is provided to the nation by these resources and by nature. In many places in the world people have managed to overcome natural limitations, their lack of resources, or their situation of having one single resource be the pivot of their economic activity. In more than one case it has been shown that administration of a national economy is the most dynamic element in the mobilization of resources since it can serve to distribute these resources, which are a nation's national wealth, in a just and objective manner to the individuals of the nation and in a manner which corresponds to the nature and composition of the nation's society. Thus shedding some light on the GNP of Kuwait and studying the changes in this GNP will definitely show us the nature of the activity of the production sectors in the national economy, and the information learned from studying the historical development of these sectors will aid in enabling us to formulate objective principles which will guarantee our ability to deal with negative features of growth and development.

A Glance at the Changes in Kuwait's GDP

When we review 11 years worth of GNP statistics since 1970, we come across important details as well as quantitative and qualitative changes with various ramifications. By means of consulting the statistics published by the Central Bank of Kuwait, which were based on various sources, especially those of the Ministry of Planning, we learn that the petroleum sector remained the most vital and active sector during the 11-year period from 1970 through 1980. But the most important remark to make in this regard is the fact that the production of the petroleum sector, according to 1972 fixed [base] prices, has noticeably decreased since 1973. In 1970 petroleum sector production amounted to about 829 dinars. By 1972 this figure went up to 914 million dinars. Then this production figure began going down in 1973 and progressively decreased till 1980. In 1980 this figure was at its lowest point, when it amounted to 462.8 million dinars. But one optimistic feature concerning this same period of time was that there was a steady increase in the value of the economic contribution made by the non-petroleum sectors. The contribution made by these sectors was 454 million dinars in 1970, and gradually increased all during subsequent years until their production, by 1980, was more than 1.12 billion dinars.

These figures reveal the fact that the non-petroleum sectors were more active in contributing to the GDP. This is a positive phenomenon which deserves praise in view of the orientation which Kuwait has espoused which aims at freeing the country of the economic domination of petroleum.

But the important question to ask, and to which we must have a detailed answer, is: What was the nature of the activity of these non-petroleum sectors during this period? This is an objective question which must be asked when making a study of the most vital sectors contributing to the formation of the gross income constituting the GDP.

We find out that the wholesale and retail trade sector has occupied a leading position among the other [non-petroleum] sectors due to the nature of the Kuwaiti economy, since Kuwait is an important commercial center in the Arab Gulf area. Output figures for the trade sector steadily increased at high rates until, by 1980, this figure totalled about 208 million dinars--after it had been in the range of 87.9 million dinars in 1970. (We note here that the calculations were made on the basis of 1972 fixed [base] prices.) But the thing which strikes us is that this sector's development during the last 3 years, that is, 1978-80, was relatively weak and increased only in the range of 8 million dinars per year.

The second most important sector was that of the manufacturing industry. From 1970 to 1980, this sector's contribution to the GDP went up from about 55 million dinars to 136.5 million dinars. During that period, this sector experienced steady growth, and it should be noted that this growth was even greater during the last 3 years, that is, 1978-80.

The sector of building and construction is the [chief] indicator of Kuwait's advancement in terms of modern civilization. Its contribution to the GDP increased from 30.5 million dinars in 1970 to about 100.8 million dinars

by 1980. But it should be noted that this sector's growth was weaker during the 4-year period 1977-80. The fourth sector in terms of importance was the sector of transportation, communications, and storage. Its contribution [to the GDP] increased from 29 million dinars in 1970 to 102 million dinars in 1980.

It is important to note that the contribution made to the GDP by Kuwait's financial establishments was less than that of the four abovementioned sectors and occupies only fifth place, in spite of the status which businessmen expect these financial establishments to have in the domestic economy. But in the best case, that is, in 1980, these financial establishments accounted for only 77.4 million dinars.

The figures show that the sector which makes the least contribution to the GDP is the sector of agriculture and fishing. In 1972 its contribution was 3.7 million dinars--the lowest figure for this period--and in 1980 the figure was 7.8 million dinars--this sector's maximum contribution. This is, of course, a small contribution. This picture of the GDP, which involves calculations based on fixed [base] prices, is the same when we look at the DP in terms of calculations based on current prices. There was an increase in absolute terms, but the same general indicators applied throughout the whole period. The only difference is the difference in prices, which distorts the actual picture regarding changes in production. In terms of current prices, we find that the petroleum sector contributed 5.156 billion dinars [to the GDP] in 1980, after it had accounted for about 618 million dinars in 1970. The total contribution made by the non-petroleum sectors increased from 407 million dinars in 1970 to 2.216 billion dinars in 1980. As we have pointed out, the activity and [relative] contribution of the subsectors did not change from what it was in terms of fixed [base] prices.

Conclusions Drawn From Changes in the GDP

From the above we get a clear picture of all of the facts concerning the trends in the course taken by the GNP in Kuwait. Perhaps the most important of them could be summarized as follows:

1. During the years 1970-80 there was a noticeable decrease in the importance of the petroleum sector in terms of contribution to the GNP, as opposed to a steady relative increase in importance of the non-petroleum sectors, especially since 1972.
2. The most active non-petroleum sector during this period was the sector of wholesale and retail trade. It was followed in importance by the manufacturing industry sector. The next sector in importance was that of building and construction, and it was followed by the sector of transportation, communications, and storage.
3. The sector of agriculture made no significant contribution to the GDP. In the best of cases, and on the basis of fixed [base] prices, its contribution was not more than 7.8 million Kuwaiti dinars. By means of these essential figures concerning the nature of the composition of the GNP and the course of its growth during one of the important stages of Kuwait's economic development, we see the objective importance of a series of ideas which must be adopted in order to increase the efficiency of the local economy's production sectors.

Views Concerning Stimulating the Effectiveness of the [Various] Economic Sectors

There is no doubt that the nature of the performance by the principal economic sectors is affected by the reality of the relationships which prevail between them in the framework of [Kuwait's] general economic policy. According to the conclusions of this article, these sectors suffer from clear deficiencies with regard to their role of bolstering the GDP by means of production and contribution which is in line with the actual requirements of the national growth aspired to. This is something that necessitates that we suggest some principles that should be taken into account concerning the matter of developing the contribution of the [vital] material sectors to the GNP. Our ideas are as follows:

1. Perhaps one of the priorities to be concerned with is that future efforts be concentrated on developing the contribution made by the vital material sectors to the national economy. The most important of these sectors are the national industries sector, the sector of the agriculture, and the sector of building and construction. This should be done by virtue of the fact that these sectors are of a nature which is more dynamic when it comes to influencing the behavior of the other principal economic sectors, when it comes to the formation of the country's real wealth, and concerning the country's goals for the future.
2. It is obvious that the commercial banks are not contributing toward financing [vital] material projects, especially agricultural ones. This is something which makes it necessary to urge these banks to increase their contribution in terms of providing credit to these sectors in order to create the urgently required investments capable of taking care of the needs and requirements [of these sectors].
3. Efforts to improve the contribution made by the vital material sectors to the nation's economy will not bear fruit unless there is a planning strategy which is conscious of the nation's goals and requirements and which takes into consideration future developments and advances. This strategy should concentrate on the framework of self-sufficiency and, as much as possible, avoid the trap of economic dependence, and should be concerned with Arab integration as a prelude to development.
4. Development of the material economic sectors cannot take place in isolation from the private sectors and contributions made by individuals participating in plans for developing these sectors. Here the government can play an important role in urging individuals to participate in the material [sector] projects. The government's definite means of doing this are embodied in its instruments for setting its monetary policy, in addition to its capability of direct intervention in this realm.

[The exposition of] these basic principles does not mean that we should dispense with benefiting from consulting all opinions concerning development of the contributions of [these economic sectors toward] the GDP--in a spirit of democracy, which takes into consideration the aspirations of the people of our Kuwaiti nation. Perhaps by means of this article we can stimulate an objective and serious discussion in order to direct people's attention toward this serious issue which we aspire to develop, and the problems of which we aspire to solve, since we feel that this will contribute toward the achievement of greater economic and social benefit for Kuwait and for Kuwait's future generations.

[Text] Positive developments in non-petroleum exports contribute toward decreasing absolute dependence on petroleum exports.

Kuwait's trade with the world depends on a type of balance between the groups of nations in the world. Commercial exchange with the Arab nations is still weak, and the predominant imports are still consumer goods.

We must develop the production sectors

Foreign trade represents an absolutely vital element of the interrelationship of our national economy with the world economy. In the case of the Arab nations of the Gulf area, foreign trade occupies a more dynamic position than does any other sector in the economies of these nations. This is true by virtue of the distinctive role played by petroleum exports in the formation of the greater part of the GNP, on the one hand, as well as by virtue of [these nations'] paucity of non-petroleum economic resources and their steadily increasing dependence on imports in order to cover their various commodity requirements (consumer goods, production goods, and semi-finished goods).

In the Kuwaiti economy foreign trade enjoys a more dynamic strategic position in the general economic policy by virtue of the fact that it is the objective indicator whose trends and directions must be controlled in order to guarantee that proper utilization be made of petroleum resources, in order to meet development requirements, and in order to provide commodities necessary for a secure food supply. It is self-evident that petroleum exports are in first place among Kuwait's total exports, by virtue of the activity of the petroleum suppliers. However, the important point to make in this connection is that Kuwait is, to a large degree, capable of controlling these petroleum exports. We have noticed that there was a quantitative decrease in petroleum exports during the years 1980-82 as a result of government decisions linked to abiding by decisions made by OPEC. This decrease in exports was in line with a particular approach based on the philosophy of making optimum use of this depletable resource in order to guarantee the future of our coming generations. The criterion for correctly judging Kuwait's foreign trade policy requires that one analyze exports and imports and the degree to which they serve the basic needs of Kuwaiti society.

Development of Kuwaiti Exports and Their Regional Trends

Total exports in 1974 amounted to about 3.214 billion dinars. This included petroleum exports, which amounted to 3,097,500,000 dinars. That is, petroleum exports constituted 96.3 percent of the total, whereas non-petroleum exports accounted for about 117.2 million dinars, or about 3.6 percent of the total. This high level of exports was a result of the oil price revolution which occurred in 1974.

But this level of exports inclined toward a decrease from 1975 till 1978. Export figures went down as a result of control being exercised over production levels and reducing these production levels in order that they be in line with Kuwait's needs, on the one hand, and also in order that Kuwait abide by OPEC's decisions. But starting in 1979 there was an increase in this level of exports. In that year, total exports amounted to 5,077,500,000 dinars, after they had amounted to only 2,864,100,000 dinars the previous year. This increase in total exports continued going up, and in 1980 they totalled about 5,519,600,000 dinars, of which petroleum exports accounted for 5.115 billion dinars, or 92.6 percent of the total. By way of comparison, non-petroleum exports increased considerably. They steadily and progressively increased from 117.2 million dinars in 1974 to a maximum of 408.1 million dinars in 1980, that is, they increased 348 percent over 1974. However, they still remained below the level of petroleum exports. Here we should bear in mind that the value of petroleum exports for the period 1973-75 was computed on the basis of the crude oil exports being assessed according to the posted price, modified in accordance with the consistency [of the oil]. To this one must add exports of refined [petroleum] products and liquefied gas. Starting in 1976 the crude oil was assessed on the basis of the official sale price.

Classification of Types of Exports

Classification of the types of exports has indicated the predominance of petroleum exports such as petroleum to be used as fuel, lubrication materials, and other similar materials. These items accounted for between 91 and 96 percent of the exports. [Non-petroleum] exports included manufactured goods, chemical materials, machinery, transportation equipment (re-exported), foodstuffs, and live animals (re-exported). Their share among the total non-petroleum exports varied in accordance with the volume of business engaged in by each category. But the important thing to point out here is that non-petroleum exports, from the quantitative point of view, went up to high levels in comparison with the mid-seventies. This indicator perhaps represents a positive phenomenon with regard to Kuwaiti exports.

Distribution of Exports According to Region

The geographical or regional distribution of Kuwait's exports to the world has undergone important changes since 1977. As a result of this there has been a reordering in the ladder of geographical priorities in the cases of the groups of the nations importing goods from Kuwait. By reviewing statistics dealing with foreign trade and the situation with regard to distribution of exports, we emerge with a number of indicators, and they are as follows:

1. The Arab nations. There has been important development in Kuwait's exports to the Arab nations, and during the period 1977-80 they steadily increased. Exports to these nations totalled 245 million dinars in 1977, but by 1980 they totalled about 501 million dinars. This represents an increase of 204 percent. Most of Kuwait's exports to Arab countries went to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and South Yemen.

2. The Asian nations. Kuwaiti exports to these nations greatly increased. They totalled 1.321 billion dinars in 1977, and they steadily increased till 1980 when they totalled 2.891 billion dinars. This represents an increase of about 219 percent. These exports went to a number of countries, with Iran being in first place--having received more than 50 percent of Kuwait's total exports to the Asian nations. Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea were also at the top of the list of Asian nations receiving Kuwaiti exports.

3. The Western European nations. Kuwaiti exports to these nations steadily increased in terms of quantity from 1977 till 1980. In 1977 they totalled 865 million dinars, and by 1980 they totalled 1.484 billion dinars. This represents an increase of 171 percent. The European Common Market countries were in first place as far as European nations are concerned. Among the Common Market nations, Kuwaiti exports mainly went to Britain, Italy, and Holland, in addition to other countries. Besides the European Common Market countries, another important Western European recipient of Kuwaiti exports was Spain.

4. The nations of North and South America. In comparison with the other groups of nations, the nations of North America (including the U.S.), Central America, and South America were farther down on the list in terms of receiving Kuwaiti exports. The most they ever received was 402 million dinars of exports in 1980. Within this group of nations, Argentina had the largest share of exports, and it was followed by the U.S.

Besides these groups of nations, there are other nations such as the African nations, the European socialist nations, and the Pacific and Southeast Asia island nations which received Kuwaiti exports. However, during the period 1977-80 they received only a very small percentage of Kuwait's exports.

The export picture presented above reveals two types of objective facts, which we can summarize as follows:

1. On the basis of these export statistics, one can come to the positive conclusion that there was upward development in non-petroleum exports and a relative decrease in petroleum exports during the time period 1977-80. But it can certainly be remarked that there was a jump in non-petroleum exports during 1981 and the first half of 1982. This was true by virtue of the activity of re-exporting goods to Iraq due to problems connected with the war [between Iraq and Iran]. This is something which this article has not dealt with because of the nature of the statistics which are currently available.

2. With regard to distribution of exports according to region, we clearly see that these exports are distributed in a harmonious way and are not at all mainly channeled toward certain countries in a way which would create dependence on them. In fact, these exports are regionally distributed in a way which constitutes a logical balance between the various geographical groups of countries in the world--with the existence of noticeable disparities by virtue of the nature of Kuwait's economic relations with these various groups of countries.

We note that the Arab countries receive a reasonable share of Kuwaiti exports in view of current circumstances and the nature of the Kuwaiti economy, although we are hopeful that this share will increase in the future.

Development of Kuwaiti Imports and the Main Geographical Sources of These Imports

Naturally the levels of imports from the various areas of the world are steadily increasing as an objective consequence of the nature of Kuwait's domestic economy and its growing need for various types of consumer and production goods. Due to Kuwait's lack of non-petroleum economic resources, it is expected that imports would play an important role in meeting the shortage of various commodities. This is an experience which is also going on in all of the other Gulf nations, as well as in many other countries of the world. Increases in imports since 1974 have reflected the Kuwaiti nation's real needs for various commodities. In 1974 imports amounted to 455 million dinars, but in subsequent years they steadily increased until, in 1980, they amounted to about 1.764 billion dinars. This represents an increase of 387 percent. As for the economic classification of these imports, we note that priority was given to consumer goods. In 1974 they accounted for 211 million dinars, but by 1980 they were accounting for 756 million dinars. This represents an increase of 358 percent. The second priority was that of semi-finished goods, which accounted for 170 million dinars in 1974, but which had gone up to 692 million dinars by 1980. This represents an increase of 407 percent. At the same time, the value of capital goods was in third place. They accounted for 69 million dinars in 1974, but they had gone up to 304 million dinars by 1980. This represents an increase of 440 percent.

If we further break down the economic classification of goods, we notice that, in the case of consumer goods, the emphasis was on importing various types of durable and semi-durable electrical and electronic goods. Next in importance were foodstuffs and beverages. In 1980 they accounted for about 189 million Kuwaiti dinars. Next on the list of priorities were private means of transportation and vehicles, and finally there were non-durable goods. As for the category of semi-finished goods, the emphasis was on industrial requirements and commodities, whereas spare parts and transportation equipment were in second place. Within the category of capital goods, the largest value of imported goods was accounted for by machinery and equipment.

Sources of Imports According to Region

The geographical source of imports to Kuwait varies in accordance with the nature of Kuwait's economic and political relations with the various areas of the world. As for the various areas of the world from which Kuwait receives its imports, one can remark the following:

1. The European nations. Kuwait received more imports from Western Europe than from any other group of nations. Its imports from Western Europe accounted for 402 million dinars in 1976, and steadily increased until they accounted for about 675 million dinars in 1980. This represents an increase of 167 percent. The main countries which Kuwait imported from among this group were Britain and West Germany, and they were followed by the other Western [European] nations.

2. The Asian nations. The Asian nations competed with the nations of Europe in supplying Kuwait with various commodities. In 1976 Kuwait imported 363 million dinars worth of goods from these countries, and this increased to 682 million dinars worth of imports by 1980. This represents an increase of 187 percent. Japan was number one among these countries, and accounted for more than 50 percent of Kuwait's imports from the Asian countries. Kuwaiti imports from India, Taiwan, and Hong Kong were more or less on the same level in each of the three cases.

3. The nations of North and South America. Kuwaiti imports from the nations of North and South America were not on the same level as that of imports from Europe and Asia. They accounted for 155 million dinars in 1976, and by 1980 imports from these nations accounted for 293 million dinars. This represents an increase of 189 percent. Most of the imports from this group of nations came from the U.S.

4. As for the Arab nations and the nations of Eastern Europe, Kuwaiti imports from these two groups of nations were insignificant during the period 1976-80.

With this picture in mind, we can conclude the following facts:

- A. Kuwait's imports do not mainly come from any particular country.
- B. Kuwait's imports do not mainly come from any particular country. In fact, they come from a wide range of foreign countries which are scattered over a large area of the globe.
- C. Imports from the Arab nations are still very slight and are not of any great importance in the field of imports.
- D. Kuwait is still importing less capital goods than it is consumer goods and semi-finished goods, according to the economic classification of imports.

The Balance of Trade

The presentation above has shown that exports have been greater than imports by virtue of the preponderance of oil exports over imports. Because of this, the balance of trade during the period 1974-80 showed a surplus. In 1974 this surplus amounted to 2,759,600,000 dinars. Then the surplus decreased by virtue of stability in oil prices, a decrease in the level of Kuwaiti exports, and increasing Kuwaiti imports. During the period 1975-78 the surplus ranged between 1.969 billion dinars in 1975 and 1.6 billion dinars in 1978. However, both the years 1979 and 1980 witnessed a great increase

in the balance of trade surplus. In 1979 it went up to 3,651,500,000 dinars, and by 1980 it had reached 3,754,700,000 dinars. There is no doubt that Kuwait's oil policy which was committed to reducing the levels of oil production--in line with Kuwait's economic and social requirements and with its desire to provide for the future of its coming generations--was a very influential factor with regard to the balance of trade since it affected the value of petroleum exports which, in turn, were affected by oil price levels throughout the world and by Kuwait's oil production policy and oil production levels.

These changes in the balance of trade, as well as the changes in exports and imports, have led us to make some important conclusions, the most significant of which are perhaps the following:

Conclusions

By means of reviewing the above, we arrive at certain conclusions which clarify for us the general framework of commercial activity in Kuwait, and the following is our diagnosis of the situation:

1. It appears that non-petroleum exports have begun to increase in recent years, and this is helping the Kuwaiti economy to reduce its absolute dependence on [revenues from] petroleum exports. However, the share of non-petroleum exports is still small and this area requires that more intensive attention be given to it by those who set our economic policy. This is something which involves concern for developing production sectors which are, on the one hand, capable of meeting our domestic needs, and are also capable of creating potential for export.
2. We believe that there is a reasonable balance in Kuwait's exports to the world as well as its imports from the rest of the world. This balance goes a long way toward helping the country avoid falling into the trap of being absolutely dependent on one particular country and having to absolutely rely on its as a foreign trade partner.
3. It is clear that capital goods are in second place in terms of the economic category of Kuwait's imports, and that the priority has been on consumer goods. In our opinion, this reflects an existing fact concerning the Kuwaiti economy. This fact is embodied in the insufficient development of Kuwait's production sectors, especially the industrial and agricultural sectors. This has led to a lack of imports of capital goods utilized in these two latter sectors in order to meet domestic needs, and this, in turn, has led to compensating for this fact [by importing goods] from abroad. We must deal with this important economic deficiency in the composition of our national economy.
4. Trade exchange between Kuwait and the other Arab nations is still slight and below the level aspired to, both in terms of imports and exports. The current levels of trade exchange must be raised to higher levels in order that integration of the Arab economies be achieved.

These conclusions and proposals are a reflection of our domestic [economic] indicators. What we must do now is to expend our utmost efforts to develop the capability of our production sectors in order to increase the share of their contribution to the GNP. This, in turn, will contribute toward increasing our export capacity and decreasing our volume of imports.

[23 Jul 82 p 4]

[Text] During a 10-year period liquidity increased 570 percent and credit extended by commercial banks increased 1,604 percent!!

There were great increases in the quantities of shares traded, and tremendous jumps in their prices!!

There is an ever-increasing need for a monetary and financial strategy which can maintain a balance in the mechanisms of the marketplace.

Monetary trends are creating inflationary pressures in the domestic economy.

One cannot conceive of a balanced economy, based on healthy foundations and a rational policy, which does not rest on the strong pillars of a monetary and financial system which guarantees that commodities will continue to flow into the channels of the economy--as expressed by monetary indicators--without any quantitative problems.

In accordance with this view, the maintenance of healthy monetary supports--without overstimulating them and thus bringing about a financial imbalance--constitutes the most important of the requirements for guaranteeing a balanced economy without inflationary problems which serve to put pressure on income levels or living standards.

This view is true in general, and in the case of our Kuwaiti economy it applies to a great degree with regard to this economy's special characteristics and is true even as far as particular details are concerned.

The correspondence between this monetary economic view and Kuwait's situation is due to the fact that the domestic [Kuwaiti] economy, to a large degree, lives up to the idea of monetary relationships. One can even state that Kuwait's situation is one in which monetary relationships dominate the domestic economy, in view of the strategic position which the monetary and financial sector occupies in Kuwaiti economic thinking.

The previous two parts of this study revealed the material trends in the domestic economy, as represented by the GNP, and then dealt with Kuwait's foreign trade activity and its trends. Now it is necessary to reveal the economy's monetary trends and indicators, and this is what we will endeavor to present in this part of the study. We will take up domestic liquidity indicators and the factors which influence them. Then we will deal with

with changes in the commercial banks in order to reveal the role of the banking establishments in Kuwait as far as stimulating the activity of the domestic economy is concerned. After that we will deal with the activities of the financial market, as represented by the stock market, changes in prices of shares, and the level of share trading. After that we will present a final summary concerning the financial and monetary changes which have taken place in Kuwait.

1. Developments in the Monetary Situation in Kuwait

It is natural that the monetary situation, including domestic liquidity, would undergo high rates of quantitative and qualitative changes since this monetary situation is a reflection of commercial activity. If we attempt to consult official statistics concerning the development of the monetary situation, we will find that since 1972 there has been a general trend in the direction of progressively higher levels of development of domestic liquidity. The money supply and near-money supply, which was 523.7 million dinars in 1972, went through a series of successive increases until it totalled more than 3,525,500,000 dinars by the end of 1981. That is, there was an increase of 572.8 percent, and the annual rate of increase was about 57 percent. This increase was the result of the interaction of the components of liquidity as represented by money and near-money. We should note that near-money constituted the greater part of domestic liquidity. By the end of 1982 it amounted to more than 2.6 billion dinars. During the period 1972-81 near-money increased 587.3 percent, at an annual rate of increase of 58.7 percent. By the end of 1981 the money supply totalled approximately 950 million dinars, after it had been an estimated 145.7 million dinars in 1972. This represents an increase of 552 percent during this 10-year period, and the annual rate of increase was 55.2 percent. In these statistics, liquidity includes the assets of commercial banks and the Central Bank. The factors influencing liquidity, with their tremendous developments during the years examined by this study, led to an increase in domestic liquidity. It was noticed that the most active factors influencing domestic liquidity were embodied by an increase in the levels of public expenditures and an increase in the rate of changes of net claims by banks against the private sector increased from 187.4 million dinars in 1972 to more than 3.2 billion dinars in 1981. Net foreign assets increased from 531.5 million dinars to more than 2.2 billion dinars during the same period.

Thus the most active factor influencing domestic liquidity has been private sector claims, especially credit.

2. Indicators Concerning Commercial Banks

Commercial banks have played an important role in supporting the sectors of the economy with their liquidity requirements by means of the credit which they have provided to these various sectors. The indicators of the development of the role of the commercial banks were to be found in a number of trends. The most important of these were the increase in volume of assets, the increase in deposits, the increase in credit, and the development of claims by banks against the private sector generally.

It was noted that assets of banks increased from 736.7 million dinars in 1972 to more than 6.7 billion dinars in 1981. This represents an increase of 810 percent, at an annual rate of increase of about 81 percent. This increase was a result of the increase in reserves of securities and capital in the Central Bank as well as monetary reserves, in addition to the increase in foreign assets and claims against the private sector, which constituted the largest components of the assets.

In the realm of liabilities--which constitute the objective equivalent of assets--there were high rates of growth in near-moneys such as time deposits, savings deposits, private sector deposits in foreign currencies, and certificates of deposit. By the end of 1981 they amounted to more than 2.6 billion dinars after they had been in the range of 378 million dinars in 1972.

As for credit, embodied by loans, advances, the opening of documentary credit, and other types of credit--and which represent a vital and important element in keeping the wheels of the domestic economy and commercial activity going--it increased at very high rates. Credit in 1972 totalled only 175.7 million dinars, but by 1981 it had increased to more than 3 billion dinars. This represents an increase of 1,604 percent, with the annual rate of increasing being 160 percent. The sectors of the economy received varying shares of this credit. It was noted that credit was granted to the commercial sector more than to any other sector. Credit granted to individuals was in second place. Financial services credit and other types of credit occupied third place, and credit to individuals was in fourth place [as published]. Credit extended to industry was only in fifth place, and last place was occupied by credit granted to the sector of agriculture. Credit granted to this latter sector decreased during the period 1972-81, and by 1980 it had received only about 1.6 percent of the total credit granted.

Before becoming immersed in drawing conclusions [concerning the above-mentioned facts and figures]--a matter which we will take up at the end of this article--it is necessary and important for us, after clarifying the dimensions of the banks in stimulating the process of circulation and economic activity, to proceed to a discussion of the stock market in view of the fact that it is the most active indicator of financial activity in Kuwait.

3. Qualitative and Quantitative Developments in the Stock Market Statistical information starting with the year 1975 which is contained in the publications of the Central Bank of Kuwait shows the great amount of activity and development which has been going on in the stock market in terms of the quantities of shares traded there and the prices of the shares.

During the last 5 years, the Kuwaiti securities market has been characterized by important activities and developments which have put it in the forefront of the economic factors of change which require concern and regulation. Although the decade of the seventies witnessed important developments in the joint-stock companies and their securities which have put them in the forefront of domestic economic activity and business, the growth of the

securities market activity has been more noticeable during the last 5 years, during which time the [securities] market became very active in the economy. The trend toward investment was a clear indication of the increasing investment awareness among individuals and their tendency to put their savings in more profitable areas.

But this trend also involved situations in which activities of an irregular nature took place, and this resulted in a tremendous jump in prices which distorted the actual value of the shares--the purpose of this being to increase profits. This impelled the monetary authorities to take measures and steps to regulate activity in the stock market and maintain a reasonable and balanced price level.

By following the record-high levels of the prices of shares during the last few years, one sees numerous indications of the development which has taken place in the stock market. But the procedure of following an objective sequence obliges us to begin with the volume of circulation, then to concentrate on the shares--arriving at a discussion of their prices.

A. Development of the Volume of Circulation

From 1975 till the end of 1981 the volume of circulation underwent tremendous developments in terms of its levels. We note that a total of about 172.1 million shares were traded in 1975. In 1976 this figure went up to 176.2 million shares. However, in 1977 this figure went down to about 60 million shares due to the well-known stock market crisis which took place in that year. But the intervention of certain authorities to regulate the stock market resulted in an increase in the volume of shares traded in 1978 to about 164.7 million shares. This figure went up to about 169.2 million shares in 1979. But in 1980 domestic and international monetary and financial developments contributed toward bringing about a decrease in the volume of shares traded to about 143.5 million shares. However, confidence in domestic factors of change then contributed toward increasing the quantities of shares traded in 1981. In that year, the figure went up to approximately 246.7 million shares.

B. The Focuses of Share Trading

It was natural that the shares of certain companies would have a higher volume of circulation as a result of the share traders and large investors acting on the basis of a number of particular economic indicators. During the period 1975-81 there was a very high volume in the trading of the shares of some companies. They were the shares of commercial banks, investment companies, real estate companies, and industrial companies. At the same time, other companies experienced oscillations in the volume of circulation of their shares. This was true of, for example, service companies, transportation companies, and insurance companies.

By the way of example only, there was an increase in the circulation of bank shares from about 6.7 million shares in 1975 to about 81.3 million shares in 1979. But during the years 1980 and 1981 this number decreased,

and by last year the total was about 30.4 million shares. We find the same situation with regard to investment company shares. In 1975 they totalled about 26.1 million shares [circulated], and this figure suddenly increased, accompanied by oscillations, until in 1981 the total was about 42.7 million shares. But the focuses of the share trading were not stable and distributed in the same way during all these years. In a given year the order of priorities might differ in accordance with circumstances involving the financial status of these companies, and the result would be an increase in their shares and the volume of shares traded in them, unlike other companies, and so on. But the final outcome has been what we mentioned above at the beginning of our discussion concerning the focus of share trading--the banks, investment companies, and real estate companies have predominated in terms of being the focus of the share trading.

C. Developments in Share Prices

By following the record-high levels of the prices of shares of the Kuwaiti joint-stock companies, and using the 1 January 1976 prices as the base figure of 100, we find that this figure went up 235.2 percent during that year. But by the end of the following year, 1977, this figure quickly decreased to 191.8 percent, since there was an attempt to achieve a natural balance based on domestic market forces. But then business activity in 1978 was such that it pushed this figure back up to approximately 258.9 percent. By virtue of the fact that new joint-stock companies were not established during 1978 and 1979, market activities were based on the shares of existing companies in the domestic market. This led to a record share increase of 311.4 by the end of 1979, and this upward trend continued in 1980 until the figure reached 313.3. Last year, in 1981, there was a tremendous jump. By the end of September [of 1981] the figure was about 434 percent. Between December 1977 and the end of April 1979 market activity was afflicted by negative factors which impelled the governmental and monetary authorities to take steps to maintain a balance [in the shares market]. However, the end result indicates that there has been a tremendous jump in the prices of shares--4 times what they were in 1976. We can clearly ascertain which types of investment establishments have been most active in terms of development in share prices when we note that, for example, bank shares increased from 221.9 at the end of 1976 to about 615.2 in September 1981. This was certainly a huge increase, and it reflects the degree of confidence in the shares of the banks and their large volume of financial activity. The prices [of the shares of] investment companies increased from 176.2 at the end of 1976 to about 368.6 in September 1981. This is not so rapid an increase in share prices in comparison with the prices of bank shares. One striking thing is the increase in the prices of insurance shares from 301.1 at the end of 1976 to about 716 in September 1981. In addition to this, the prices of the shares of real estate companies increased from 356.3 at the end of 1976 to 758.2 in September of 1981, and this reflects a tremendous development in prices. [This was] one of the most important reasons for the slow-down which has begun to characterize the marketplace during the last 2 months of June and July of 1982.

D. The Most Important Market Indicators for the First Half of 1982

I do not intend to get into digressions when mentioning the most important features of [activity in] the marketplace during the first half of this year, but I would like to point out the most significant of these features, which were the following:

1. The cohesion of the market situation, and its rejection of attempts to establish Gulf companies in foreign countries.
2. Stock splits for the purpose of expanding the realm of those trading in shares and the volume of share trading.
3. An inclination toward steep increases of the average share prices.
4. A great amount of activity utilizing the forward trading system with postdated checks, with average prices being high. The result of this was that average prices were limited by the large-scale share traders so that they would not be more than 100 percent of [the shares'] monetary prices.
5. A relative slow-down in share trading during the last 2 months of June and July.
6. Intervention by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, from time to time, in order to assure a balanced market in order that it stay in line with its own market mechanisms and the requirements of the Kuwaiti economy.
7. Government support for the market activities and supervision by the government of the course of market activity in order that it promote financial activity in Kuwait.

Thus monetary and financial indicators in Kuwait have been undergoing significant changes, and the most important features of these monetary and financial developments during the last few years could perhaps be summed up as follows:

1. Domestic liquidity has grown at rapid rates, with the annual growth rate being about 57 percent. This suggests an important question!! Is the development in liquidity being accompanied by a development in the commodities and products available in the domestic market so that no imbalance occurs between money and commodities which would lead to an increase in the rates of inflation? There is no doubt that the development of liquidity in the manner shown above has contributed toward increasing the rates of inflation, and numerous studies have pointed this out.
2. The commercial banks have made great contributions toward stimulating economic activity by means of the credit which they have provided. But the most significant thing to note here is that these banks have been partial to the sectors of investment and finance, and they have neglected to provide sufficient support for the sector of agriculture and the sector of industry. This means that there has been a shortcoming in the area of stimulating the production sectors in our domestic economy. This shortcoming has been

reflected in the amount of credit provided to [the production sectors] in comparison with the other sectors. In fact, the granting of personal loans and credit which was channeled toward financial activities and speculation has contributed, as numerous studies have shown us, toward an increase in the pressures of domestic inflation.

3. As for the tremendous developments in the stock market, share trading has increased to tremendous levels. But the striking thing about the situation is that the tremendous increase in price levels does not reflect, in all cases, the indicators, and financial achievements of the companies whose shares are being traded.

4. The market indicators for shares in the middle of 1982 indicated the prevalence of a spirit of caution and calm as far as the volume of share trading was concerned, and there was a tendency toward a rise in the prices of forward traded shares. This led to the imposition of internal rules by the large-scale share traders on the [interest] rates of the forward traded shares so that they would not exceed 100 percent.

This picture of the situation regarding financial and monetary activity in Kuwait leads one to make an urgent appeal for an increase in the role played by the Central Bank when it comes to controlling the monetary situation and imposing a system of strict monitoring in order to prevent the situation from deviating [in a bad direction]. By this we do not mean that the Central Bank should intervene by imposing more restrictions. [This should] be part of a monetary strategy which takes into consideration the domestic situation and plans for its development on sound bases and without excessive optimism. This strategy should also include principles which involve precise concepts with regard to the following:

1. The necessity of maintaining stability in the level of domestic liquidity so that it will be in line with the supply of commodities and services and thus not lead to inflationary pressures.
2. The creation of objective conditions for maintaining a balance in the Kuwaiti stock market without violating the independence of the stock market, taking into consideration the influence on the stock market by credit extended by commercial banks, personal loans, etc.
3. It is necessary that the strategy dealing with the financial situation take into consideration all of the official and non-official views of the large-scale share traders, experts, and specialists in order that the strategy emerge within a more objective framework. No doubt a more profound study will reveal other aspects which need to be established and dealt with. This would guarantee the maintenance of a balanced level of the monetary and financial sector in Kuwait which would be in line with our aspirations to create an active financial market which would raise Kuwait to the level of the ranks of the [leading] world financial markets--and this is something that would be possible if it had the support of everyone's efforts.

LEBANON

ROBERT FRANJIYAH ON REBUILDING COUNTRY

NC101008 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0700 GMT
10 Oct 82

[Speech delivered by Robert Franjiyah, the commander in chief of al-Maradah militia, at a meeting of the Union of Engineers on 9 October--place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] Mr Chairman, brother engineers: This meeting with you in these decisive circumstances goes beyond the limit of the traditional, social framework; it is part of a series of meetings with the influential forces in our dear north, aimed at rescuing Lebanon from its smothering crisis and rebuilding it to suit the ambitions of its sons and future generations.

The rescue of Lebanon and its rebuilding is a Lebanese necessity and should rely on the efforts of its people who have participated in the building of many countries of the world. It is also an Arab responsibility to repay [the Lebanese] for the efforts made by the Lebanese in building some of the Arab states.

The 1943 charter and the formula which stemmed from it were undoubtedly two basic factors in the establishment of the homeland and the state. We still safeguard them as much as we safeguard our most precious sanctities. However you will agree with me that since 1943 Lebanon has developed greatly in various spheres and kept in line with the progress and development in the world. Therefore, our national character and even our constitution have also become in need of development to remain two good and strong pillars of the foundation of our national structure.

Brothers, we want to build the future Lebanon as a modern, strong and developed state, a post-20th century state, based on the unity of the homeland--its entity, people and land--in which absolute loyalty will be for Lebanon, within its internationally recognized borders. We want Lebanon to be the ultimate homeland for all the Lebanese, a state that imposes the rule of law through its national legal institutions on all Lebanese territory [applause] and a state that rejects all forms of partition, especially the resettlement [of the Palestinians in Lebanon]. We want Lebanon to always remain a free, sovereign and independent country, open to the Arab areas and keeping abreast with cultural development in the world. We want Lebanon to be a democratic country, constantly developing

according to the aspirations and hopes of its people, according to the national requirements, a country in which complete social justice, based on justice and quality, will be achieved. We want Lebanon to be an impregnable state, protected by a capable and strong army, enhanced by national service and backed by the confidence and strength of the people when necessary. Through such army, the homeland will be liberated, the borders will be protected and the legal authority will impose its authority on all the Lebanese territory. [Applause]

Today, a new page is being opened in our homeland. We are glad to see signs of the desire for change appearing gradually in the government. This is a positive factor which we bless and endorse. The formation of the new cabinet in the form it was done is indicative of the beginning of this desire.

Brothers, in my meeting with your lawyer colleagues, I called for the need to give priority to the liberation of the homeland from the occupying enemy and to rejecting cooperation and dealings with this enemy. In my meeting with your physician colleagues, I opened a heart to a hand which was extended to us to proceed toward national unity. We explained then how we visualized the government and state and how we wanted the homeland. With you, men of planning and construction, I call for the immediate preparation of the workshop in this national building--the building of Lebanon, the homeland, state and man, on the basis which we believe are the strongest and best. May you live long, and long live Lebanon. [Applause]

CSO: 4400/18

LEBANON

RASHID KARAMI COMMENTS ON NEW GOVERNMENT

NC081635 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT
8 Oct 82

[Text] Commenting on the formation of the new Lebanese Government, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami today said:

[Begin recording] The consultations have been held according to the correct procedure but the formation of the government has been contrary to what was expected. Therefore, we should ask whether there is an idea behind this to introduce reforms to the system to change its present character. What is more important is whether at this phase it is possible to attain the desired goals, namely national accord, security, reconstruction and development and the Israeli withdrawal, through a government capable of achieving all this: We hope so. Or, as we have read in a certain newspaper, whether the idea is to end the era of sectarian chiefs and descendants. Thanks to God, I am far away from this club. What is needed is a change for the better but many people doubt this because the heads, thanks to God, belong to the sectarian chiefs. This is a guarantee--I will say no more. Some have said that all the ministers are graduates of the American University and Saint Joseph University. We hope that the Italians are not angry [because the cabinet includes no graduates from an Italian institution]. Although we are not represented as Tripoli residents, this does not mean that we should adopt our stand on this basis. However, what is more important is that this Chamber of Deputies, regardless of all that is said about it, remains the source of power. The chamber, among all other establishments, has performed its duty in the best possible way. I do not think that what has happened is a compensation to it for all that. We are waiting to see the stand of Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and of the fellow members of the Chamber of Deputies so that we can, in light of this, define our stand regarding all that has happened and is happening. [End recording]

CSO: 4400/18

SALAM, BIRRI COMMENT ON NEW GOVERNMENT FORMATION

NC081338 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Oct 82

[Text] Commenting on the formation of the new government, [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam has stated: The important thing is that the wheel of government should turn and not stop upon meeting any difficulties. Indeed, the people look to those who can tackle important and thorny matters and shoulder the burdens that are placed on the shoulders of the officials. While wishing the new government success in its mission, I always hopefully tend to act positively and to assist every official in shouldering his responsibilities. I have been one of those attaching great hopes to the youths of this country, in whom I see efficiency and ability. There are matters which require expeditious action by the government, particularly the tackling of the Israeli occupation of the land of Lebanon and other matters. What interests me is that we should continue, within the general political framework and through the government, to truly express Lebanese unity without which Lebanon cannot rise from its slumber to march in solidarity toward our aspired security and stability.

[Former] Prime Minister Salam had earlier received Deputies Kibbi, al-Dawud, Albert Mansur, and Baydun as well as the Saudi ambassador and Hisham al-Sha'ar, Shafiq al-Sarduq, Minister Khalid Junblatt and lawyer Nabih Birri [leader of Amal Movement].

Lawyer Birri stated later: After one day of labor, a government was produced. We view this government as tantamount to an uprising [intifadah] by the presidency and the premiership against the attempts of those who are inflexible and who tried to appoint themselves guardians over the regime at its outset. It is right to say that this government uprising [the formation of the government] could not have been better, obviously, because it embraces competent people, sincere friends and people with practical experience. We hope that God will grant them success, especially since the important task is to proceed toward building the homeland and liberating it and not always ruminate in the whirlpools of the past which led us to our present situation.

CSO: 4400/18

WALID JUNBLATT INTERVIEWED BY 'AL-HAWADITH'

PM111425 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 8 Oct 82 p 14

[Interview granted by Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party and leader of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, to 'Adnan Nasrawayn in Paris: "Walid Junblatt Tells AL-HAWADITH in Paris: The International Solution Must Be Both Military and Political"--date not given]

[Text] AL-HAWADITH: Has there been any contact between you and the new President Amin al-Jumayyil?

Junblatt: I telephoned President Amin al-Jumayyil from Paris on the day of his inauguration. I congratulated him and we agreed to discuss some ideas which I consider useful for Lebanon's future when I return to Beirut later.

AL-HAWADITH: Could you give us the broad lines of these ideas you intend to discuss with President al-Jumayyil?

Junblatt: There is one political idea on which we in the Nationalist Movement insist. We believe that the Lebanese question should be internationalized politically and militarily as a means of ending the present crisis and completely separating the Lebanese question from the Middle East question. I particularly believe that the international multinational force which has recently arrived in Lebanon should be placed under UN command, because such a step would guarantee accomplishment of the mission assigned to the force. We believe that the force previously withdrew on the direct orders of the states contributing to the force, and this led to the horrible massacres committed in the Palestinian camps in Beirut. They might again withdraw under certain circumstances, and this could lead to major internal problems in Lebanon. I maintain that only the presence of international forces attached to the United Nations can lead to stability in Lebanon. Within this international presence the Israeli occupation of Lebanon could be ended and the Lebanese could achieve national accord and build a national army capable of maintaining security and stability and of defending Lebanon's national borders. All other solutions to the Lebanese problem have failed, including, above all, the Arab solution, and this is regrettable.

AL-HAWADITH: How do you assess President Amin al-Jumayyil's inaugural speech and the principles he mentioned with reference to the settlement of the Lebanese crisis?

Junblatt: The new president's speech is not a bad starting point, although I would have preferred it if he had distinguished between the foreign armies and indicated that there is an invasion army, which is the Israeli Army, and the Syrian Army which ultimately is an allied army, an Arab army and an army legally present in Lebanon. As for his assertion that the president of the republic is above political parties and religious sects, I think that these are very fine words, but the truth is that the Lebanese political system will have to be changed completely if what the president said about being above sectarianism and political parties is to come true.

AL-HAWADITH: It is known that you opposed the nomination of Amin al-Jumayyil for the presidency. Why?

Junblatt: I did indeed refuse to support the nomination of Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil for the presidency because I am opposed to any representative of any major political party becoming a government figure, especially becoming president. Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil represents the Phalangist Party. I would have preferred the presidential election to take place in a more positive atmosphere. I was among the first to nominate leader Raymond Iddih, because he favored an impartial and patriotic approach to a settlement of the Lebanese problem through internationalization. However, what is done is done, and now we must deal with the realities. We will see what the new president can do for Lebanon.

AL-HAWADITH: Your candidate Raymond Iddih did not get one single vote in the presidential election. How do you explain this?

Junblatt: This is regrettable and is also worth noting. It reflects the nature of this Chamber of Deputies, which represents nothing at all. It is a defunct chamber and an old people's home. It has been renewing its own term for more than 10 years. Raymond Iddih does not need the votes of such deputies. He has his own political and moral standing, and history will record this.

AL-HAWADITH: All observers agree that the election of Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil as president is an indication that national accord among all the Lebanese people could be achieved. What is your opinion?

Junblatt: Lebanon is now a divided and fragmented country. The soldering together of the broken parts and the reconciliation of the various sects must be done gradually. I do not see the unanimity demonstrated in the Chamber of Deputies as a reflection of national accord, because in my opinion the present Chamber of Deputies represents nothing even though it still is the body which elects the president. I also believe that national accord cannot be achieved by magic. It is a long process of hard work for political and social accord among all the Lebanese.

AL-HAWADITH: Are you optimistic about the future of Lebanese national accord?

Junblatt: In politics there is no such thing as optimism and pessimism. It is not a question of predicting the future. As I said, national accord is a process of building a political and social system that provides equal opportunities as well as political and social security for all. This is a long,

hard process. How can it take place under a political system which is founded on political sectarianism and division?

AL-HAWADITH: World observers maintain that the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory has created new conditions which must be taken into consideration if the Lebanese problem is to be solved. One of these conditions is that Israel is seeking a peace agreement with Lebanon. Will the new president sign such an agreement, and what is your position?

Jumblatt: You should address this question to Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. What I can say is that Israel is trying to effect an economic, social and political normalization in southern Lebanon and the mountain region. Israel's aim is to create a new and very major fait accompli and to pull parts of Lebanon and its people toward itself. We naturally reject this and want to return to the armistice with Israel. We do not want a unilateral peace with Israel. If the Arabs eventually agree to have peace with Israel, then Lebanon would in the future consider signing a peace within the framework of a general Arab move toward peace. I believe that signing a unilateral peace treaty with Israel under the present circumstances and under Israeli occupation would mean the economic and political destruction of Lebanon. Of course, Israel is doing everything it can to conclude a unilateral peace agreement with Lebanon, but we as Lebanese must reject this. Nobody can compel us through military might to sign an agreement which we vehemently reject. I repeat that internationalization is the alternative to unilateral peace agreements with Israel and is the way to liberate Lebanon from Israeli occupation.

AL-HAWADITH: I recently met the man in charge of international relations in the French Socialist Party in Paris. He told me that the Palestinians' departure from Lebanon has weakened the Lebanese National Movement. What is your opinion?

Jumblatt: The Lebanese National Movement gene-ally became militarily weaker as a result of the Israeli invasion and the departure of the Palestinian forces. We hope that the next phase in Lebanon will be one of democratic dialogue among all the Lebanese factions, and we hope that the National Movement will not again resort to arms; but if we have to resort to arms, then we will.

AL-HAWADITH: Who, in your opinion, was behind the assassination of the late President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil and the massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps?

Jumblatt: I do not have sufficient information regarding the assassination of Bashir al-Jumayyil, but I believe that, considering the place where it happened and what we heard about Bashir al-Jumayyil's stringent security precautions, the indications are that the assassination was an inside job instigated by foreign circles. As for the Sabra and Shatila massacres, Israel brought elements from the Sa'd Haddad group and the Phalangists to Beirut airport and from there moved them to camps and let them commit this terrible massacre against the Palestinians.

AL-HAWADITH: Why are you in Paris, and where will you be going from here?

Junblatt: During my stay in Paris I have met French Socialist Party Leader Lionel Jospin, Communist Party Leader Georges Marchais and Foreign Minister Cheysson. After Paris I will tour a number of European states represented in the Socialist International.

CSO: 4400/18

IHDIN CRITICIZES SECURITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

NC111230 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0700 GMT
11 Oct 82

[Unattributed "political" commentary: "Who Imposes the Legitimacy?"]

[Text] All Lebanese view the oath-taking speech by the president of the republic as important. This speech was correctly described by the president himself as not being a platform. However, in our opinion, his speech was stronger than a platform. It was a declaration of political and principled intentions on the part of the president of the republic. We all remember that in his speech the president stated before anything else the need to put an end to the cycle of violence. He also stressed the unity, sovereignty, independence and Arabism of Lebanon. Likewise, he extended a hand to the north and stated that Lebanon is above the president and that the president is above parties.

The honorable Lebanese believed in what was stated in that famous speech and immediately began implementing it. Thus, the step of unifying Lebanon began and we blessed it. The north also responded favorably to the hand that was extended to it. This response was demonstrated in the speech of the commander in chief [Robert Franjiyah] of the giants [militia of former President Sulayman Franjiyah] on 25 September, which was supported by [former] President Sulayman and, finally, by the telephone contact between Ihdin and Bikfayya.

Of course, we cannot forget to note here the stances of [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and those of the Tripoli leaders, which have all been positive toward the new presidency. Moreover, the new government received an overwhelming welcome from all sides, which was considered an indicator of the will for change. This is what has been witnessed on the domestic level. On the Arab level, there is almost total support of the presidency, and this is also true on the international level.

There is only one side which is not happy with this support and all this Lebanese, Arab and international rallying round the legitimacy in Lebanon--it is Israel and the group of Lebanese cooperating with it. They become infuriated whenever the support of the Lebanese legitimacy increases. Moreover, indications have begun to appear that they alone are placing barriers before the legitimacy to impede the salvation march. Otherwise, what is the reason for this delay in implementing the legitimate security measures in east Beirut?

The people, particularly the inhabitants of West Beirut, have begun to ask: Why are strict security measures being implemented in West Beirut while parallel measures are not being implemented in East Beirut? Such questions, in our opinion, are to the point and fair. The eastern area, which is under the control of the Phalangists, should start with itself and provide a good example to be emulated by others, because we must not forget that the Phalange Party is the party that brought the president of the republic to the presidency, that is, if we consider that everything announced in the eastern area is the truth.

Anyhow, since 1975 our stance has been clear, frank and firm. We have always believed that the salvation of Lebanon cannot be other than in legitimacy and through the legitimacy--the legitimacy of Lebanon united, free, sovereign and independent; the legitimacy of Lebanon which is effective and courageous and which dares to take action and is just.

Regarding the rest of the plans, particularly those Israeli-made ones, they cannot water the canal of Lebanon's interest, whether the president of the republic running the affairs in Lebanon is Sulayman Franjiyah, Ilyas Sarkis or even Amin al-Jumayyil. But, just as the people of Lebanon and the legitimacy of Lebanon have confronted the conspiracy and foiled it since 1975, they will also know how to confront and to foil the conspiracy being hatched this time.

CSO: 4400/18

LEBANON

PLO OFFICE ISSUES STATEMENT ON PALESTINIAN PRESENCE

PM061423 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 5 Oct 82 p 3

[Unattributed report: "PLO Office in Lebanon: 'Arafat Expresses Condolences for Assassination of al-Jumayyil and Congratulates President"]

[Text] Shafiq al-Hut, head of the PLO office in Lebanon, has asked the Lebanese press to convey PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's condolences to Phalangist Party Leader Pierre al-Jumayyil and denunciation of the crime that led to the death of President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil as well as his congratulations to President Amin al-Jumayyil on his election as president of the republic.

This was contained in a statement issued by an official source at the PLO's office in Lebanon, of which the following is text:

"Following the Israeli withdrawal from the Lebanese capital and the Zionist enemy forces' evacuation of the PLO office after looting it and smashing its contents, Shafiq al-Hut had an official contact with the Lebanese Foreign Ministry with a view to having the Lebanese Army authorities return the office so that it can be repaired and work can be resumed in it. He also requested that adequate protection be provided for the office on the grounds that it enjoys diplomatic immunity.

"Until this is done and in view of difficulty of direct contact because of the presence of the Zionist enemy, the head of the PLO office, through the Lebanese press, wishes to convey to Pierre al-Jumayyil Yasir 'Arafat's condolences and his denunciation of the crime that led to the death of late Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil.

"The head of the PLO office also has the pleasure to convey PLO Executive Committee chairman's congratulation to President Amin al-Jumayyil on his election as president of the republic by a unanimous Lebanese national vote. It is hoped that President al-Jumayyil's era will mark a new chapter of fraternal relations stemming from the historical ties that bind the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and which will remain strong despite all the incidents that have marred them.

"On this occasion the PLO office wishes to assure all the Palestinians residing in Lebanon following the massacre which the enemy committed that it is necessary to show patience and steadfastness in the face of the biased rumors which the common enemy of the Lebanese and Palestinians is trying to spread with the aim of creating fear and anxiety and maintaining a tense atmosphere.

"The question of the Palestinian presence in Lebanon--which is temporary until a Palestinian state is established--must be organized with the Lebanese state in accordance with Lebanese laws and full Lebanese sovereignty within the framework of freedom and dignity.

"The head of the PLO office is expected in the next few days to hold contacts with the Fatah command after which he will return to Beirut in order to hold the necessary contacts with the Lebanese authorities. He is quite confident that Lebanon in the era of its new president will remain loyal to the unswerving Lebanese course of supporting the cause of the Palestinian people as a just and fair cause."

CSO: 4400/18

CP LEADER CHARTS PATH TO NATIONAL UNITY

PM061351 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 1 Oct 82 p 7

[Unattributed report: "Yes, National Unity Is Possible"]

[Text] In an exclusive interview published this week in L'HUMANITE DIMANCHE, Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General Georges Hawi explained how the Lebanese communists intend to achieve national unity.

"Following Bashir al-Jumayyil's assassination and the Sabra and Shatila massacres," Georges Hawi said, "The unity created on Amin al-Jumayyil's election grouped all the forces which had woken up to the danger posed by the Israeli occupation (although not all those forces express that awareness with the same determination or the same methods). The Islamic and patriotic forces gave their support to Amin al-Jumayyil for the sake of Lebanon's unity, national independence, sovereignty and freedom. That support was decisive."

"Thus our party highlighted the positive nature of that election and called for that unity, which so far has only been achieved at the top, in the political class, and still remains spontaneous and superficial, to be transformed into real national unity based on a national program aimed at hounding out the occupier and regaining our sovereignty and independence.

If that is to be achieved it must have a strong popular base and that requires a general national reconciliation. We must put an end to former divisions and only consider one difference: Those who are for the occupation and those who are against it...."

"...We are proposing the dissolution of the old structures which represent the past. We are also proposing the dissolution of the existing organizational structures of the Lebanese National Movement (grouping of progressive forces--L'HUMANITE editor's note), the Central Political Council of Lebanon's patriotic and progressive parties and forces.

We are also proposing the disbanding of the "Lebanese Front" (grouping of right-wing forces--L'HUMANITE editor's note), and that all militias--those of the Lebanese forces and the Phalangist Party and those of the National Movement Party and the Amal Movement (Shi'ite Muslim Organization)--be disbanded without exception.

CSO: 4400/18

LEBANON

BRIEFS

PUBLICATIONS LAW TO BE APPLIED--Information and Justice Minister Roger Shaykhani has stated that the information and justice ministries will lead the government work in the coming stage. He emphasized the importance of working and giving more than anything else. The minister stated this in a quick radio interview which he granted to colleague Hind 'Ajuz a short while ago. Radio Lebanon will broadcast the interview during the direct transmission. Answering a question on the possibility of applying the publications law, particularly when the army is attacked, as has been mentioned by the newspaper AL-ANWAR this morning, Shaykhani said: I am a lawyer and I realize the dimensions of the laws. The law will be applied horizontally and vertically. He hinted that the censorship of the Lebanese television newscasts will come after and not before the newscasts. However, he stressed that the law will be applied and that the Information Ministry will have an observer. [Text] [NC100810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 10 Oct 82]

JUNBLATT TO PROPOSE INTERNATIONALIZATION--Chairman of the National Movement's Central Political Council, Walid Jumblatt, has expressed his hope that the coming stage in Lebanon will be a stage of democratic dialogue among all the Lebanese sides and that the National Movement will not resort to arms again. In an interview published by AL-HAWADITH magazine today, Jumblatt says that he will propose to President Amin al-Jumayyil, following his return to Lebanon, the political and military internationalization of Lebanon to emerge from our present impasse and to separate the Lebanese issue from the Middle East crisis. [Text] [NC100824 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 10 Oct 82]

GRANT FROM EC--The European Committee today decided to grant \$9 million to Lebanon to help the citizens who sustained losses in Beirut and the south. [Text] [NC071423 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Oct 82]

'ARAFAT ACCUSED OF INTERFERENCE--Yasir 'Arafat, who has been ousted from Beirut, is still interfering in Lebanon's affairs. He has accused the multinational force in Beirut of participating in the annihilation of the Palestinian people in Lebanon through the arrests and torture that are being carried out by the Lebanese Army, as 'Arafat has claimed. [Text] [NC080725 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0545 GMT 8 Oct 82]

DRUZE COMPLAIN OF PHALANGIST HARASSMENT--The heads of the Druze community in Israel have again addressed the government officials, demanding that they do everything possible to stop the renewed harassments of Druze in Lebanon by Phalangist soldiers. Among other things, the heads of the sect claim that three Druze were kidnapped by Phalangist soldiers and nothing has been heard from them since. The heads of the community also claim that since Bashir al-Jumayyil's murder, the Phalangists have again harassed the Druze in various places in Lebanon. [Text] [TA011012 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Oct 82 p 2]

ITALY ACCEPTS APPOINTMENT OF ENVOY--The Foreign Ministry was informed today of the Italian Government's approval of the appointment of Khalil Haddad as new ambassador of Lebanon in Rome. It is expected that Ambassador Haddad will leave Beirut in the next few days to participate in the preparations for the visit of the president of the republic to Rome at a later date this month. [Text] [NC061730 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Oct 82]

CALL FOR UNITY, ACTION, COOPERATION--[Former] President Sulayman Franjiah today, at his weekly press conference which he held before noon at his palace in Zgharta, expressed his hope that the al-Wazzan of today be different from the al-Wazzan of yesterday. He added that we hope the new presidency will work more and talk less. He pointed out that the sides to benefit from the incidents in Tripoli are evil persons, headed by the Deuxieme Bureau personnel who will be taught a lesson similar to the one taught to their predecessors. In answering a question on the character of the government and whether it is going to be one-sided or a national unity government, [former] President Franjiah said: Cooperation with all is the best thing for the president personally and for the government. President Franjiah began his conference by extending his congratulations to the two sisters, Syria and Egypt, on the occasion of the glorious October war. He also referred to a blessed step taken by the new presidency. This step has eliminated the notion of the two Beiruts and has reunified the capital. He expressed his hope that other steps will follow, foremost among which is the unity of all of Lebanon, like Beirut has been reunited. [Text] [NC051250 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 5 Oct 82]

CSO: 4400/18

'AL-RAYAH' CRITICIZES U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

GF261340 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] Manama, 26 Sep (WAKH)--The Qatari paper AL-RAYAH ridiculed the U.S. adherence and concern for principles of right, justice, freedom, human rights, peace and dignity, and noted the U.S. stance against the UN General Assembly's decision to condemn Israel for perpetrating the brutal massacre against the Palestinian people in Lebanon.

The paper wondered that if the U.S. president's stance is not a blind bias toward Israel, and against the Arabs, then why does he insist on being the one to establish a peaceful and just solution in the area of conflict, and why does he make daily calls that others should abide by self-control to allow the chance for him and his envoys to establish peace.

The paper concluded by saying: It is appropriate that the U.S. president, since he is the president of one of the world's major superpowers, to reject our exhortations so that we can take this opportunity to make a more in-depth analysis within our Arab nation and ask ourselves how long we will continue to put our hopes on the United States, to go to it and even to ask for its mercy.

The Saudi paper 'UKAZ called on the Arab nation to overcome its disputes and to distribute roles within the framework of a united strategy taking into consideration all the facts of the situation in the region.

The paper expressed hope that the new Lebanese president Amin al-Jumayyil will succeed in his endeavors to take Lebanon out of its crisis and establish a secure, stable sovereignty of state as well as national unity among various Lebanese factions.

CSO: 4400/16

QATAR

PAPER COMMENTS ON IRANIAN PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

GF291450 Doha QNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Sep 82

[Text] Doha, 29 Sep (QNA)--The QATARI GULF TIMES called on Iran to show good will and help the Islamic Good Offices Committee in bringing about an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war, a war which is not in the interest of Islam.

The paper affirmed that this war is one of the main reasons for the weakening of the Islamic front which led to the Zionist enemy's invasion of Lebanon, its perpetration of massacres there and the continuation of its occupation of holy Jerusalem.

The English daily in its editorial today commented on the Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's call yesterday on uniting the Muslim ranks to fight the Zionist enemy.

The paper affirmed that if Iran was ready to do what its president called for, united Islamic work might succeed, particularly since Iran is one of the main powers in the Islamic world. However, the paper noted that such work needs the elimination of the great obstacle that the Islamic nation is facing, the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The paper in its commentary touched on the Camp David accords and stated that these accords were one of the reasons that aided Israel in continuing its arrogant plans.

It added that Egypt in light of the facts it perceived from these accords, which do not serve Egyptian, Arab and Islamic aims, is currently endeavoring to change its stance towards these accords.

The paper expressed hope that Egypt would return to Arab ranks and the Israeli flag will not flutter in Cairo much longer.

CSO: 4400/16

DAILY ACCUSES HUSAYN, SADDAM OF WEAKENING ARAB EFFORTS

JN070928 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, 7 Oct (SANA)--The newspaper AL-THAWRAH today says that the Fes summit resolutions marked the beginning of a fresh Arab effort which must be continued and consolidated not only by abiding by those resolutions, but also by working for their implementation and developing joint Arab action so the current Arab situation will rise to the level of facing up to the present challenges and warding off their dangers.

Commenting in its leading article, the paper says: It was this view of the Arab situation and the present challenges that produced positive resolutions at the Fes summit. What is required now is a solid implementation plan which places the higher Arab interests above all other considerations, gives the Arab-Zionist conflict priority over everything else and enables the Arab nation to tighten the siege around the Camp David accords and the capitulation line pursued by the Egyptian regime as part of the overall Arab effort to pool all resources in the main battle against the Zionist enemy and its agents.

AL-THAWRAH points out that any observer following up the commitment to and implementation of the summit resolutions cannot but notice that some Arab regimes are violating and undermining these resolutions to weaken the Arab position in confronting the imperialist-Zionist plot to force Arab surrender.

The paper says: It is no coincidence that reports are now being reiterated about King Husayn's imminent visit to Cairo. These reports also reveal that contacts are taking place between the Saddam and Mubarak regimes and that Egyptian newspapers are again circulated in Iraq. All this proves that the Iraqi regime is violating Arab summit resolutions, including those which were adopted at the Baghdad summit.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: All this makes us wonder about the seriousness of some Arab regimes in abiding by and implementing the Arab summit resolutions. Such practices are bound to weaken the Arab position and all efforts to agree on effective joint Arab action.

CSO: 4400/18

DAMASCUS BROADCAST ON MOVES TO CONTAIN PALESTINIANS

JN102048 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return" by 'Abd al-Rahman Ghunaym]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation: The one thing which we are absolutely convinced of is that the Palestinians will never shirk their responsibilities, despair of continuing their battle or sit in the laps of those who attempted to cut their throats. We are certain that each Palestinian has a holy grudge that will neither abate nor stop. This grudge is against the Zionists, their [protector] the U.S. imperialists and their agents, the Arab reactionaries, particularly those reactionaries who shed the blood of the Palestinians, plotted against the Palestinian revolution and killed more Palestinians than the enemy was able to kill.

We are convinced that the Palestinians think continuously about the way to deal Mr Ronald Reagan two blows for each blow and two stabs for each stab. The Palestinian people will remain stronger than their enemies. They will remain stronger than the massacres and the attempts to tame the Palestinian people. We are certain that each Palestinian fighter who stood and fought in Beirut and in Lebanon came out of the battle with definite conclusions which were later transformed into convictions. These convictions are:

1. The Palestinian revolution will not emerge victorious without a comprehensive pan-Arab progressive democratic revolution that will throw in the dustbin all the decaying residues left by colonialism in the Arab world.
2. Those who stood idly by and did not make any practical effort to confront the invaders were in fact partners to the invasion. They can only be listed among the enemies.
3. There is nothing to be hoped for from the United States or the Reagan administration; there will be no peace with killers, slaughterers and those who break covenants.
4. The Palestinian revolution which was taught profound Arab lessons during the invasion of Lebanon will not allow the Arab reactionaries to contain it and will not yield its freedom and independence and mortgage itself to the reactionary agents.

5. The Palestinian revolution has actually been a bullet coming out of the barrel of a gun carried by a Palestinian male fedayeen or female fedayeen. This revolution does not and will not know the road to the Reagan initiative because it has its own initiative, the initiative of the great and proud Palestinian people who are able to smash all those initiatives which attempt to tamper with the fate of this people and this nation.

CSO: 4400/18

SYRIA

DAMASCUS PRESS COMMENTS ON LEBANESE CHOICES

JN100957 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 10 Oct 82

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Withdrawal of the Invading Forces First" AL-BA'TH says: History has taught us that invaders, regardless of their methods or type, place at the top of their list of priorities the sowing of disruption among the sons of the one people and the weakening of national and pan-Arab affiliation and sentiments in the hearts of the citizens, the sons of the one people. This has been and continues to be the Zionists' objective in their invasion of fraternal Lebanon. Before the recent Zionist invasion, they sought to create an isolationist enclave in southern Lebanon through their agent Sa'd Haddad. They provided this enclave with all necessary means to make it viable and strengthen it at the expense of the Lebanese body in the hope that, through this enclave, they could smear the image of nationalist and unified Lebanon and make it appear as if there were no harmony among its citizens as to their objectives and no coexistence among its various communities.

The Zionist invasion of Lebanon in June of this year, which Israel carried out under the pretext of protecting its security in Galilee, has revealed the evil designs of this enemy and reaffirmed that the Zionist enemy has as its target the entire Lebanese people and territory. The invasion also shows that the Zionist enemy does not hesitate in committing the most atrocious crimes and massacres to liquidate any nationalist figure or any opposition to the occupation.

AL-BA'TH adds: The Lebanese Nationalist Movement has fought the Zionist forces of occupation in a heroic manner, and has fought alongside the Palestinian and Syrian forces, continuing to fight and to insist on its stand that the Zionist invading forces must withdraw from Lebanese territory first. One cannot compare an Arab army which entered Lebanon to prevent fratricidal fighting, to defend Lebanon's territory and to offer sacrifices for the sake of Lebanon's freedom and independence with an invading army which terrorizes peaceful citizens, kills old people, women and children and occupies and destroys the land of others.

AL-BA'TH says: Lebanon will remain Arab. U.S. imperialism and fascist Zionist, no matter what means of destruction and pressure they use, will not succeed in dissuading the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to change its stand and will

not succeed in smearing the Arab image of Lebanon and in forcing the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to refrain from its insistence that the Zionist invading forces must withdraw first. After this takes place, the sons of the one house will put their house in order.

Commenting on the same subject AL-BA'TH says: It has become evident that the Israeli occupation of Lebanon is only one in a series of Zionist plans for expansion. The dictum about Israeli security has been proved to be only the means and excuse to achieve these objectives of expansion. All signs are clear and need no more clarification. The Israeli justification for its aggression no longer exists in the wake of the Palestinian fighters' departure from Beirut to protect the lives of Lebanese citizens on the one hand and to safeguard the unity of Lebanon on the other, which in addition foiled all the excuses for maintaining an occupation by a third party.

After reviewing the conspiratorial role of the United States and Israel in Lebanon, the paper says: The Lebanese have lived in a difficult situation under Zionist occupation. They continue to suffer from the atrocity of the occupation and its terrorism. Therefore, the hope is that efforts will be exerted on the road to confrontation and termination of this occupation. Such efforts require cohesion and unity among all the Lebanese. This has been realized through the unity of the Lebanese masses, which announced their rejection of all attempts to harm Lebanon's unity and to remove it from the Arab fold.

Commenting on the same subject, TISHRIN says: What the Americans and Zionists wish to achieve is to push the new Lebanese authorities toward the brink of an abyss by urging them to adopt stands that are not only hostile to the Lebanese and Palestinian people but also Syria and to drag Lebanon into a treaty of humiliation and capitulation that will open the door wide to commercial, economic and cultural infiltration. In this manner, Lebanon would lose the last vestiges of its sovereignty and become a satellite revolving directly in a Zionist orbit and indirectly in a U.S. orbit.

The new Lebanese authorities are facing a decisive test. Either they reject the conspiracy in part and parcel, call for Israel's unconditional withdrawal, strengthen their relations with Syria and the Arabs and reaffirm their Arab affiliation or fall in the trap and have Lebanon disappear.

CSO: 4400/18

SYRIA

'TISHRIN' REJECTS EQUATING SYRIAN, ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS

JN091142 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, 9 Oct (SANA)--The newspaper TISHRIN says since 1967 and in every new Zionist aggression against the Arabs--first the annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan, then the carving up of the West Bank and Gaza and, recently, the invasion of Lebanon--the United States spared no means or military and political provocation to enable Israel to achieve its aggressive designs. By doing so, the United States wanted to establish the conviction that the road [to any solution] must pass through Washington. The invasion of Lebanon was the last flagrant example of this defiant policy which slights everything that is Arab.

In an editorial entitled "The Rejected Bargain," the newspaper adds: By the annexation of the Golan, the United States wanted the Arabs to forget the boycotted Camp David accords; by the invasion of Lebanon it wanted them to forget the invasion of Lebanon; and so on and so forth with every new aggression. The United States wanted the main Arab cause to be lost in this accumulation of successive aggressions. And now, they want the Arabs and the whole world to forget the invasion of Lebanon, with all its atrocities and defiance of the world and its wishes, including the charter and resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council, which condemned that aggression and called for Israel's immediate withdrawal from Lebanon. The United States and Israel want the Arabs and the world to forget all that and only consider trading Israeli withdrawal for "Syrian withdrawal." This strange view of the invasion wants us to equate an Israeli withdrawal with a Syrian withdrawal.

TISHRIN says: It is obvious that the main objective of this strange bargain is to make the Arabs, the world and Lebanon forget the main issue, which is the invasion, with all its implications for Lebanon, the Palestinians and the Arabs and to present Syria as the one responsible for the continued presence of the Zionist forces in Lebanon. It is a dissolute political equation which seeks, by the immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, to do away with all the UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and circumvent all world condemnations of the savage massacre committed by Israel in Lebanon.

The paper emphasizes: The main issue is the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the withdrawal of the invasion forces in accordance with the resolutions of the international community. After that, there would be no problem between Lebanon and Syria as there had never been any problem in the past and will never be any in the future.

TISHRIN says: We live in bad Arab times, in which national and pan-Arab treason has become a viewpoint which we are called upon to discuss because it expresses "a civilized moderate stand which responds to the requirements of the age and shows awareness of the nature of modern international relations." We believe that such great deterioration in concepts and values only occurs in cases of "military impotence" or total apostasy against the issues of the nation. Otherwise, how may we explain this Arab weakness which pushes one to despair and leads to the gates of Washington so it can finally liquidate the Arab cause, bring the Arabs into the zone of U.S. influence. This will never happen. They must not dream of it.

TISHRIN asserts that Syria rejects this dissolute bargain in principle and refuses to be equated with the occupation forces. Any deal with Syria, it says, can only take place after the withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanon. This Syrian position is well known and has already been communicated to those concerned. The whole of Lebanon knows only too well that the relationship between Syria and Lebanon on all levels is a pure, sincere, fraternal one. All Syria's martyrs and sacrifices have been for the sake of Lebanon's sovereignty and unity and of confronting the conspiracy to partition that Arab country. It has already become clear what would have happened to Lebanon had it not been for Syria.

The paper concludes by asserting that these bad Arab times will not last long and that the United States will not be able to enforce the Zionist will on our nation, especially Syria.

CSO: 4400/18

PAPER COMMENTS ON REAGAN STATEMENT

GF021915 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 1 Oct 82 p 1

[Editorial: "The Arab Responsibility and 'Israel's' Military Power"]

[Text] Regardless of what President Reagan aimed at when he talked about "Israel's" military power, it must be realized that this power is basically acquired from the U.S. biased stance toward Israel, which reached the point of giving Israel priority over the U.S. armed forces in terms of sophisticated weapons, foremost of which are the radar planes which are equipped with interference systems. Without this support, "Israel" would neither possess this military power nor would it establish a presence in Arab Palestine.

Since Israel gets its power from the U.S. biased stance, it remains merely a reflection of the U.S. will. This has been recently proven. Moreover, the United States proved that it is capable, any time, of curtailing Israel's influence in accordance with circumstances. Evidence of this came when Begin was forced to give in to President Reagan's instructions on Lebanon, despite all of his demonstrative and verbal recalcitrance, such as [maintaining Israeli] presence in Beirut and attempting to maintain a foothold in its airport. When Reagan demanded the withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Beirut and the airport, Begin had no other choice but to give in.

It seems that Reagan wanted to alleviate the impact [of withdrawal] on the arrogant Begin, so he praised the Israeli military power in order to cover the unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the Lebanese capital and its international airport. No matter what President Reagan's intentions were when he deliberately exaggerated about Israel's military power, the Arabs will not weaken before such allusions to military power.

If the Arab differences encouraged the United States to inundate Israel with moral, financial and military support, then Israel gets much more power from these differences than from the U.S. support. It has to be realized that the Arabs bear the responsibility for developing what they agreed upon in the Fes summit so that their solidarity becomes so effective they can, through it, adopt a unified stand, adhere to it and cooperate in its implementation. Such desirable solidarity will subjugate the international interests in the Arab world, to the interests of the Arab national issues. When the Arabs are capable

of practicing that, then they will be able to confront the challenges that face them and consequently, the U.S. Government will be obliged to reconsider its calculations and policies toward the Arab-Israeli dispute, and to curtail "Israel's" influence to the point of keeping it under control. The United States can achieve that. What cannot be anticipated is whether the United States will practice this policy without there being substantial changes in the Arab situation in the direction of solidarity based on firm bases and defined stands. This implies that the responsibility for the future remains and Arab responsibility in the first place. The U.S. policy will be defined and "Israel" will revert to its natural size if this responsibility is practiced through unified Arab will.

CSO: 4400/15

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

U.S. POSITION ON UN RESOLUTION SCORED

GF261517 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0810 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Sep (WAM)--In its editorial today, AL-WAHDAH strongly attacked the United States for not voting for the decision to denounce the mass annihilation war against the Palestinians in Beirut. The paper said: The United States defies the entire world community. At the time when 147 countries have agreed to denounce the Beirut massacre, the United States and Israel stood alone in the line of the countries which openly declare their commitment to the mass annihilation war and the practice of organized international terrorism against human rights and the right to live under the sun, free from the reactionary and hostile Zionist illusions.

The paper expressed astonishment because this U.S. stand comes at the time when Sharon admitted he was the Israeli military official responsible for the execution of the Beirut massacre and when a number of senior officers resigned to protest against the massacre. The paper also said: The United States' practices affirm that it supports organized international terrorism more than any other country in the world and that it insists on declaring its support for the mass annihilation war against the Arabs more than any other enemy of the Arabs.

The paper blamed the Arab stand towards events in Lebanon and said this stand has exceeded with its languor all expectations.

The paper said: If the Arabs decide to boycott U.S. products, such a U.S. stand would not exist. If the Arabs recall their ambassadors from Washington and lower the U.S. flag in their capitals, the U.S. stand would not be so arrogant, malicious and impartial towards Zionist terrorism.

At the conclusion of its editorial, the paper expressed belief that the tyranny of the U.S. stand stems from the weakness of the Arabs stand.

CSO: 4400/15

U.S. HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR LEBANON MASSACRES

GF231800 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 23 Sep (WAM)--The newspaper AL-KHALIJ regrets that the Arabs did not take advantage the dreadful massacres carried out by the enemy to impose international isolation on it and to initiate sanctions against the United States for abandoning its commitment to protect the civilians in Beirut and its silence on the Zionist forces' incursion into West Beirut and the Palestinian camps.

Commenting on the resolutions of the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting, the paper says it is the right for our Arab nation to be surprised at the result of the emergency meeting because its result dwindles before the international fury as well as before the anger of many Jews inside and outside the Zionist entity.

The paper questions--In the name of the Arab nation whether there has to be something uglier than the slaughtering of thousands of children, women and elderly to force our regimes to adopt a stand commensurate with the disasters. The greatest disaster is still the same, which is a fear to harm U.S. interests, the same interests which put weapons in the hands of the Zionists forces who slaughtered the Palestinians and destroyed their camps.

The paper holds the United States responsible for the massacre, a responsibility which is equal to the responsibility of the invasion forces in Lebanon.

The paper calls on the Arab governments to support the Arab issue and the Arab fate which is being threatened by mass carnage, further occupation of our homeland and the intention to divide the Arab homeland.

At the conclusion of its commentary, the paper says that the policy of denunciation and silence to confront the enemy encouraged the enemy to perpetrate this massacre in Sabra and Shatila camps. The paper warns that the continuation of this policy will encourage the enemy to carry out more massacres.

CSO: 4400/15

HEIR APPARENT DISCUSSES LEBANON, GULF WAR

GF230940 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1845 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 22 Sep (WAM)--Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid al Nuhayyan, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the armed forces, has said that the massacre perpetrated by the Zionist enemy and its stooges on the innocent inhabitants of Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut was one of the objectives of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the siege of Beirut. It demonstrates that Israel's pledges are meaningless, he said.

In an interview with the Qatari newspaper AL-RAYAH to be published on 23 September and conducted by Salah al-Din Hafiz, the paper's managing editor, Shaykh Khalifah says that the Arab nation must prepare for a decisive battle against the enemy who has dissipated and continues to dissipate all opportunities for peace. He says that the Arab nation is capable of changing its conditions and that it is time for us to rise to the defense of the nation's dignity and future. He calls for making use of the Arab solidarity that emerged from the Fes summit to prevent the continuation of aggression against Lebanon and to bring about an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces and to regain the rights of the Palestinian people.

Asked about the GCC's role, particularly with regard to military cooperation and coordination to protect the Gulf against foreign ambitions and the extent of the GCC's success in this regard, and of his assessment of the steps to coordinate and develop joint defense to protect the people of the Gulf against those who covet their wealth, Shaykh Khalifah said: "The GCC leaders firmly believe that it is necessary to keep this strategic region free of the threat and dangers of international conflicts by creating an intrinsic strength that safeguards the region's stability and acts as a strong deterrent against foreign ambitions in the area. Such an intrinsic strength can be created only by coordinating defense among the GCC countries. Such coordination should be based on a unified view of the dangers and ambitions that threaten the region. On the basis of such a view and in the light of a comprehensive survey of the human, military and economic resources of every one of the GCC countries, we must agree on a framework for unified defense plans. Without going into details I believe that the GCC countries have made satisfactory progress in this direction, particularly as the GCC was established only a short while ago."

Asked about how he views the Iraqi-Iranian war in the next period and its negative effect on the peoples of the area and about the UAE's role in bringing about a speedy solution to this war Shaykh Khalifah said: "From the first moment of the outbreak of the conflict between Iraq and Iran we have sought, and we continue to seek, in every way an end to the fighting between two fraternal Muslim countries that are close to our hearts and a peaceful settlement to the conflict between them in accordance with principles of international law and goodneighborliness and primarily on the basis of Islamic principles.

"We in the UAE realize that the continuation of this war regrettably exhausts the human and economic resources of two fraternal countries--resources which both Iraq and Iran need to achieve development, progress and prosperity for their peoples, the Arab nation and the Muslim peoples who are facing the same threats and challenges. Therefore, the UAE has continued its endeavors--directly with both Iraq and Iran and on the Gulf, Arab and Muslim levels--to bring about a peaceful settlement to the conflict between the two countries and to end the war between them so as to stave off all possible threats to the Gulf.

"We hope that in view of the present situation there will be an end to this tragic war in the near future and the two sides will meet to settle their disputes through negotiations, now that the gap between the two sides has greatly narrowed regarding the conditions for a cease-fire. We must all seek to strengthen the points where there is agreement between the two sides and contain the differences so that a positive result can ultimately be achieved and the war can be ended and thus the interests of all parties are served. The two parties have common interests and only the enemies of Islam can benefit from differences within the Muslim family."

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

SALAH KHALAF VISIT REPORTED

GF231106 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] Defense Minister Muhammad ibn Rashid today received Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, who is currently visiting the UAE.

WAM has learned that Muhammad ibn Rashid paid tribute to the courageous stand and outstanding valor shown by the fighters of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement during the barbaric Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the siege of West Beirut. The defense minister affirmed to Salah Khalaf the UAE's unlimited support for the fraternal Palestinian Arab people and their armed revolution until this struggling people can achieve their aspirations to self-determination and establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO which has demonstrated to the world that it is qualified and able to lead and represent the Palestinian people in war and peace.

In a statement after the meeting Salah Khalaf said that his meeting with Defense Minister Muhammad ibn Rashid was positive and that they reviewed the Palestinian and Lebanese situation, and particularly the massacre perpetrated by the Israeli Army in Palestinian refugee camps in West Beirut--an act that demonstrated this army's cowardice in exploiting the withdrawal of the forces of the Palestinian revolution from West Beirut.

Salah Khalaf expressed to Muhammad ibn Rashid the gratitude of the Palestinian people and their armed revolution for the sincere and firm stand constantly taken by Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister, in support of the Palestinian cause.

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

'AL-WAHDAH' CALLS FOR EFFORTS TO END GULF WAR

GF030838 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0655 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Oct (WAM)--The newspaper AL-WAHDAH called on the Arab and Islamic states to exert a strong and sincere effort to stop the war between the two Muslim neighbors Iraq and Iran and to settle the dispute between them peacefully.

In its editorial today, the paper warned against the consequences of continuing this war. It said: "Only peace between Iraq and Iran can protect the Gulf region and block the U.S. and Zionist plans. It is this peace that is capable of bolstering Arab unity and of liberating the usurped land."

It added: "Those who are interested in the region's security and peace and those interested in uniting Arab and Islamic efforts and resources in order to confront the U.S.-Zionist aggression are required to act today before another dawn to put an end to the passive responsibility that has characterized the Arab stand and to stop this war."

The paper asked: "What is the usefulness of uniting the stands and efforts of some Arab powers to reach a settlement between the Arabs and their Zionist enemy while the Arab and Islamic stands are not being bolstered to achieve peace between the two Muslim peoples?"

At the conclusion of its editorial, AL-WAHDAH stressed that the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war will benefit none but the United States of America and Israel.

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

BANGLADESH LEADER STOPS OVER--Lt-Gen H.M. Ershad, head of the Bangladesh Government, last evening stopped over at the Abu Dhabi International Airport on his way to Mecca to perform hajj. He was received and later seen off at the airport by Mr Muhamad Darwish ibn Karam of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr Mahbubul Haq, the Bangladesh ambassador to the UAE. Our Dacca correspondent adds: Besides performing hajj, General Ershad will hold talks with King Fahd and other Saudi leaders. This will be General Ershad's second visit to Saudi Arabia since May this year when he paid an official visit to Riyadh on the invitation of late King Khalid. General Ershad was accompanied by his wife and Foreign Minister Shamsud Doha for the 2-week visit. [Text] [GF231028 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 23 Sep 82 p 1]

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